

# RG104 Entry 24B

June 19 – July 4, 1839

## Abstract of Testimony before Thomas Slidell, United States District Attorney (Commonly called the “Slidell Investigation”)

Abstracts are in chronological order by date of testimony, and then by Deponent for each day. This daily order might not be completely correct and it appears that some pages are missing. A fuller copy of the documents will be found in NARA RG 56, entry 289 boxes 3-4-5.

### Summary:

Rufus Tyler, Chief Coiner of the United States Branch Mint at New Orleans, and James Maxwell, Melter & Refiner, were accused of malfeasance by Superintendent Bradford. An investigation was ordered by the Treasury Department and New Orleans District Attorney Thomas Slidell was put in charge of the proceedings. Inquiry consumed several weeks with Slidell’s commission meeting daily from about 4pm until late in the evening due to extremely hot weather.

After thirteen days of testimony (which is the content of this NARA box) and review in Washington, Tyler and Maxwell were found blameless. Unfortunately, by the time a decision was reached, both men had died from Yellow Fever.

# RG104 Entry 24B

June 19, 1839

Abstract of Testimony  
by  
David Bradford, Superintendent

June 19<sup>th</sup> 1839.

Met agreeably to adjournment at which  
P. M. Present. Messrs. Shidell Commissioner  
W. Bradford W. Fortshall Mr. Hunt  
Mr. Tyler W. Maywell W. Parker and  
Mr. Darity.

Mr. Bradford was then called upon  
by the Commissioner to give his testimony.

Mr. Bradford was sworn by the Secretary.  
Examination by Mr. Shidell.

Being asked whether he had ever declared  
that he was satisfied that Mr. Maywell had  
never received the bullion of the Cases de-  
posited, and would give him a letter to  
exonerate him.

Answered that he must have been misun-  
derstood that he never said so; that at  
the time the difficulty arose he stated to  
Mr. Maywell his belief that the bullion had  
not been stolen, but that it would be found.  
That he approved of the investigation called  
for by Mr. Maywell and had informed him  
that he would write out his opinion on  
the subject, that he had commenced doing  
so but had not finished it.

Mr. Maywell at the origin of this  
difficulty testified an anxiety to have  
an investigation before all the Officers of

Mr Bradford

Was aware that the Treasurer's Journal had been behind hand for a great length of time and says that he was always cognizant of the state of the books, that he never made any remonstrance with the treasurer on the subject.

Is aware that since the first of March last the Journal has not been brought up day by day, that at the end of the month also though the Journal was not brought up he "discrepant" was in the habit of examining the Vouchers and accounts.

Is perfectly satisfied that the Casas deposit was put into the possession of the Mather & Wapner both before and after assay. His reasons for supposing that the Casas deposit did go into the hands of the Mather & Wapner as aforesaid or as follows:

- 1<sup>st</sup> That, sometime as he is certain, between the 16<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> of April he gave an order at the particular request of the Mather & Wapner that the small deposits of Mexican and current coins should be reserved till a sufficient quantity was obtained to make a full melt.
- 2<sup>d</sup> That this order was obeyed in the case of (System and of Lacking)

3.

- 3.<sup>d</sup> That on or about the 18.<sup>th</sup> of April Mr. Maywell complained to witness that this order was disobeyed, and witness thinks the said complaint was with regard to the Casas deposit, but of this he is not certain.
- 4.<sup>th</sup> That the said order was obeyed in the Cases of Garcia and Villazulcia.
- 5.<sup>th</sup> And his opinion is moreover founded upon the testimony of other persons to wit: The Weigher, Peter Labick, Richard Parker and the assayer.

That from the testimony he received he believed that it was not possible that the Casas Deposit should be in the Treasurer's Vault at the time Mr. Maywell complained.

On being asked whether he thought it possible that there could not have been the Treasurer's Vault that is the Vault in which is deposited the Bullion for melting into ingots the Casas deposit at the time that Mr. Maywell demanded an investigation.

Answers No, because at this very time a discussion or calculation took place between Mr. Dimetry and Mr. Maywell

Mr. Bradford

as to how many ounces of reserve deposits there should be in the Treasurer's Vault exclusive of the Coins deposited, and they agreed, after some trifling discrepancies, in their calculations, on the same amount that he was not present at the time of this calculation took place, but that he was satisfied, that it had taken place had so acknowledged to him.

Mr. Maywell first made the calculation, the weight was then made, a difference of about 20 ounces was found, Mr. Dimetry then examined the calculations, detected the error and the calculation was found to correspond with the weight.

All the facts above detailed with regard to said calculations and weighing were substantially acknowledged to witnesses by Mr. Maywell in their subsequent conversations.

At the time that Mr. Maywell & Mr. Dimetry thus weighed the reserve deposits, they "the said deposits" were in the Treasurer's Vault and taken thence by those gentlemen to be weighed.

W. Bradford

At the time that these reserved deposits were thus received there were at the time other coins and Bullion in the Vault. But does not believe that these reserved coins could have been commingled with the other coins and bullion, because, he has never known them to be so on any other occasion, and the routine of the Office was to keep them distinct.

Without flagrant dishonesty or gross negligence on the part of Mr. Maxwell or of Mr. Crompton does not believe that the Casas deposits could disappear from the building.

Believes that the Casas deposits has been smelted down in the melting of clippings.

That at the time Mr. Maxwell recommended the accumulation of small deposits he also stated that these deposits being a little under the standard weight and the clippings a little above it, it would facilitate him to have them, the clippings and small deposits melted together.

That although the melting of small deposits <sup>with</sup>

W. Bradford.

Mr. Bradford

with the clippings was a convenience to himself yet he would forego that convenience because he considered the returning of these deposits useful in as much as the public interest would be promoted by the economy of final. After the demand for an investigation by Mr. Maxwell, Dr. Hort expressed to him his opinion, (after re-essay of what was represented to be a part of Tichner's deposit of the same date) that the Casas deposit had never been assayed by Dr. Hort and that Dr. Hort said the report of assay of Casas Deposit should be returned to him "Dr. Hort" department dissented from such opinion.

On being asked when Dr. Hort recommended that the report of the Casas assay should be returned to him whether Dr. Hort gave any explanation of why or how he had made a report of assay when no assay had taken place.

In answer Mr. Hort gave no satisfactory explanation.

Adjourned to tomorrow at 4 o'clock P. M.

# RG104 Entry 24B

June 20, 1839

Abstract of Testimony  
by

David Bradford, Superintendent;  
George O. Hall, Cashier, Commercial Bank  
of Louisiana;  
James W. Breedlove, Commissioner of  
Customs

June 20<sup>th</sup> 1839.

Met agreeably to adjournment the same present present

Examination of Mr. Bradford continued by Mr. Nicholl.

Dr. Hort refused to be present at the investigation called for by Mr. Maxwell, because he could not have any personal communication with him "Mr. Maxwell" without its being attended with some unpleasant manifestation of feeling.

That since the 1<sup>st</sup> of January 1839 the warrants for the delivery of bullion, ingots & coins have not been regularly issued at the close of the month.

Being asked upon what fault it was that the warrants were not issued at the end of every month.

Answers that it was principally his.

He here produced a detailed account of January 31<sup>st</sup> 1839. Marked

Does not think it that the want of issuing these warrants has been the cause or would have delayed the bringing up of the sinuous books

That he considers the Combs to be of more importance than books or any thing else

W. Bradford.

That he considers books as the repository of Articles.

That in the Month of August 1878, he discovered a considerable error, say 30 or 40,000 Dollars in the warrants, that made him more wary, and that although it might wear the appearance of dilatoriness on his part yet for the sake of accuracy since the first of January last he preferred submitting them for examination before their completion and believes that the delays in closing the annual accounts in January last have proceeded from the Comr and the Master & Refiners.

On being asked whether he is aware that the instructions are that these warrants are to form the basis of the Treasurer's Journal entries.

Answers that he is not aware of it; not having particularly attended to the instructions relative to the entries in the books having referred the same to the Clerks principally. That he considered the mode of doing business here has been different from that in Philadelphia. In Philadelphia they act upon the principle

Mr. Brundage

of prompt payment and here the usage is to receive the bullion on deposit for coinage.

States that a form in which the Mint Treasurer's account with the Treasurer of the United States should be kept was sent out by the Director and on such a form being adopted and sent to Washington, the Treasurer of the United States sent out another form to be adopted for said account.

The written instructions headed "Instructions in relation to the course of accounting for Gold & Silver at the Branch Mint of the United States at New Orleans" have never been rescinded nor have others been substituted in their place by the Director at Philadelphia.

Has had these instructions about a year the receipt is indorsed on them 11<sup>th</sup> of June 1838.

2<sup>nd</sup> Whether the directions contained in these instructions that all the accounts in the Branch Mint at New Orleans should be closed and balanced on the last days of March, June, September, and December.

W. B. Bradford

have been regularly observed. 10

Answers They have not been regularly observed; the accounts up to August 1838 were closed, when there was a recess; they were closed but not balanced and not sent on until February when all the accounts were sent up satisfactorily.

The accounts were not satisfactorily closed and balanced in March 1839. nor are they yet.

The accounts of the Treasurer of the Mint with the Treasurer of the United States for March 1839 have been balanced and sent on; but the accounts with the Officers of the Mint are yet left open.

Since March 1838 he has been inspecting a travelling agent of the United States to examine the institution in all its details. He has also been in expectation of the arrival of the Director himself. He indulged in this expectation from the publication of the law of 1837 and from the two letters written by witnesses requesting the presence of the Director at the opening of the Mint.

Mr. Bradford.

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The contents of the Vaults of the Com. & Mitter & Refiner were not delivered up to the Treasurer on the 31<sup>st</sup> of December 1838.

Witness proposed to the Com. & Mitter and Refiner that the Contents of their Vaults should be delivered up to the Treasurer on the 31<sup>st</sup> of December 1838. But the Com. & Refiner opposed it because they could be delivered up at any time when so directed by the witness.

The Com. had been very ill and so thought it best to do all the work that could be done and settle at a more convenient time.

Mr. Tyler having raised some objections to the weights we were using (which I had borrowed from one of the Banks in this City) suggesting that I should stop the operations of the Branch Mint until the weights designed for it were received from the Mint, or from Professor Haasler whose duty it was to furnish them

W. Bradford

W. Bradford

to which suspicion Mr. Masfwell emphatically objected and I added that as we had the standard weights from the Custom House we could proceed in the operation of weighing with confidence and satisfactory accuracy; and Mr. Tyler having also said that he intended to let his machinist to make a set of weights, I wrote an official letter, (of which I make a copy) to Mr. Spafford.

"~~Heintz~~" W. S. B. Hunt New Orleans

January 5<sup>th</sup> 1839.

Sir,

I have to request that you test the weights in the weighing room, which I have received from the Consolidated Association (banks) with the standard weight and report to me if it is or not practicable to use them in the requisite weighing operations of the Treasurer of this Branch Mint.

Very Respectfully

Your Obedient Servant

signed, David Bradford, Asst.

To/ William C. Spafford Esq. Clerk in the Treasurer's office and Weigh Master.

Witness believes that on the 31<sup>st</sup> of December 1838 the Miller & Refiner presented his accounts and a fair estimate of the proceeds after all charges of such waste as he had not smelted.

Witness does not think that silver had been used for alloy up to that time by the Miller & Refiner in making Gold Ingots.

On the 31<sup>st</sup> of December 1838 witness did not personally examine these accounts presented by Mr. Maywell, but that he did so on or about the 31<sup>st</sup> of January 1839.

Witness satisfied himself by a personal examination of Mr. Maywell's accounts that there had been a considerable waste of the amount of precious metals Mr. Maywell claimed.

A warrant was prepared for Mr. Maywell for wastage bearing date 31<sup>st</sup> of January 1839 but he, the witness did not sign it until after the account was signed by Mr. Maywell.

W. G. Bradford.

Witness does not know <sup>14</sup> anything about the erasure upon which the state of the General account of the Mint & Refiner with the Treasurer dated 31<sup>st</sup> of January 1839, is written, but that it is evident the word 31 is written on erasure.

Mr. Dimtry told witness that the account had been agreed upon between Mr. Dimtry and Mr. Maxwell a week before he signed it.

The account in which this erasure exists has been produced from the Treasurers Office.

Being asked whether he ever offered to give to the Mint & Refiner the wastage warrant bearing date 31<sup>st</sup> of January 1839 now in the wastage warrant book.

Answers that he has never made any definitive disposition of said warrant, which still remains in the wastage warrant book unendorsed, but signed by Witness.

That he wished to wait for more definitive orders from the Treasury.

in relation to

Mr. Bradford.

Mr. Bradford.

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The relation to the disposition of these warrants, and is now satisfied that the warrant ought to have gone on to Washington endorsed by Mr. Forstall, together with the account.

Has always thought Mr. Forstall was a very honest man, by no means efficient in business, confiding altogether in his clerks.

Thinks Mr. Dimstry to be the best accountant he ever knew, believes his moral character excellent.

Thinks the Matter & Refiner competent to the operations of this department from his having produced standard targets, from which coins have been made that have passed the annual assay.

Mr. Maxwell commences his work early in the morning, say about 7 O'clock in the winter and about 6 in the summer, and closes his work at about 4 O'clock P.M. and very often after that hour.

Has never experienced any

(delay &c.)

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from the smelters & Refiners department as he believes.

From what he has seen of Mr. Maywells conduct in this Mint witness believes him to be a dishonest man.

Question. Have you any other foundation for this opinion of Mr. Maywells dishonesty other than the Garrison Cases Deposits?

Answer. Yes that he has always entertained this opinion ever since the 16<sup>th</sup> of January last and particularly since the 20<sup>th</sup> of January that in November 1838 he directed the bullion in the Melters & Refiners Vault which had been accumulated there in consequence of the repairs to the Treasurer's Vault, should be distributed giving to the several Officers the bullion there accumulated which belonged to the several Officers respectively. This was done agreeably to witnesses direction.

He had notified Mr. Maywell that this distribution should be made in dependents presence and that it

Mr. Bradford.

Mr. Barclay

should be made in strict conformity with the legal regulations.

Deposant was informed by Mr. Tyler that at about the last of December he, Mr. Tyler had been obliged to get Mr. Maxwell to melt a few of the strips and nuggets in the Vault which he believes was done, and which he considers as a flagrant violation of the law and of his orders. And as it was all in the possession of the Treasurer and they had the Treasurer's receipts and deposant had warranted it in, he ought to warrant it out in order to protect the Treasurer.

Deposant believes that this is all in relation to the distribution of the bullion in the Minter & Refiner's Vault that inspired his confidence in his, Maxwell's honesty.

Being asked if he ascertained the amount of strips and nuggets, the Comptroller from the Minter and Refiner on the occasion mentioned above.

Answers. That he did not.

Mr. Barclay.

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Did not communicate to Mr. Maxwell at the time, what Mr. Tyler had told him about the strips and Ingots. Neither then nor subsequently did, dependent require any explanation from Mr. Maxwell on the subject.

Does not believe that he communicated it to the Treasurer.

Does not believe that he made any report on the subject to the Director.

When the Treasurer received the bullion coming to him from that vault nothing was found short.

Being asked <sup>why</sup> of the impression was created on his mind by this transaction of the strips & ingots, of the dishonesty of Mr. Maxwell, he did not communicate it to the Director or the Secretary of the Treasury. Answered that this custom of the Coin and Bullion & Refining mutually receiving from each other strips and all Ingots without passing through the Treasurer having prevailed

Mr. Bradford

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during the summer he did not think proper to communicate it to the Director or to the Secretary of the Treasury and that he thought this usage would exempt them from censure.

Examined on behalf of  
W<sup>o</sup>. Maywell.

Question. Did you not settle the bullion account between the Minter & Refiners and the Treasurer, and between the minter & Treasurer between the said 30<sup>th</sup> of January and 1<sup>st</sup> of February  
Ans. Yes.

Quest. Were they both right and all the bullion and coins delivered to them accounted for to your satisfaction?  
Ans. They were.

Quest. Did you not attend the weighing personally with W<sup>o</sup>. Maywell and inspect his calculations?  
Ans. Yes, and W<sup>o</sup>. Minty's calculations also.

Quest. Were there not two doors to this Vault?  
Ans. There was a double door

W. Bradford.

20.  
 Quest. Did the Treasurer keep the key of one door and Mr. Maywell the other, to the end that neither could have access to the Vault without the privity of the other?

Ans. Yes.

Quest. Were not the Bullion & Coin in this Vault considered in the keeping of the Treasurer?

Ans. Yes.

Quest. Did not Mr. Maywell hold your warrant for that part which appertained to his department?

Ans. He did with the Treasurer's receipt thereon.

Quest. Did he not surrender this warrant, with the receipt thereon to you or the Treasurer on the settlement of accounts?

Ans. He did.

Quest. In making up Mr. Maywell's accounts, did you not rely on his statement, if other wise from what book did you get it.

Ans. I did not rely on his statement, for one single item. I relied on the Registers of gold & silver bullion & the assayers reports for every item.

Mr. Bradford.

of the account that was settled.  
Ques. Did not Mr. Maywell pre-  
vious to and at the time of this  
settlement apply to you for the  
monthly warrants for the deliv-  
ery of the bullion?

Ans. He did not previous to that  
time, but did at the settlement  
and frequently since it was agreed  
that they should be furnished agree-  
ably to said settlement and month-  
ly afterwards.

Ques. Have they been furnished  
conformably to that agreement?

Ans. They have not. I did not pass  
the matter because I supported the  
Director.

Ques. How are the entries in the  
book entitled the weigher's Book,  
made; are they original or taken  
from some other book?

Ans. They are the Record of my  
monthly reports taken from the Register.

I adjourned to tomorrow at  
4 O'clock. P. M.

Ans. &c.

Must. Have any circumstances come to your knowledge to induce you to believe that the official conduct of the Coiner & Minter & Refiner or either of them has been influenced by any aversion or opposition to the Government?

Ans. I have no knowledge

Examination of W. Hall  
Cashier of the Commercial Bank,  
by W. Sedell the Commissioner.  
W. Hall was sworn by the  
Notary.

I am the Cashier of the Commercial Bank. The amount of gold certificates of the Mint which were held on the 17<sup>th</sup> inst. by the Bank was \$14,329.09 including costs of protests.

The amount of the New Orleans Branch, Mint, Silver certificates held by the bank at the same period 17<sup>th</sup> inst. was \$4,321.35 including costs of protests. Which said amount in gold & silver includes all held by the bank in the month

W. Sedell  
W. Hall

month of June.

The greater portion of these certificates have been held upwards of six months & during that period I have been in the habit of sending about once a week to demand payment.

Until within the last month or two the answer has been that they would be settled for in a few days, or in the next week.

After that I instructed the messenger to take payment in bank notes but in or before the then last call, the answer was that they could not be settled for at the time.

The messenger stated that he sometimes saw the Treasurer and sometimes other officers, that he was referred from one officer to another without being able to get a satisfactory answer.

Within the last two months the banks called upon some of the endorsers to take measures for the payment of the certificates, as no payment could be had at the Mint.

W. H. Hall.

On the 16<sup>th</sup> Inst. they were pro-  
tested; and since then some of the  
indorsers have paid.

A portion of them have also  
been paid by Mr. Barker since pro-  
test.

\$5932.13 were paid by indorsers  
\$7309.85 amount of silver certificates  
paid by Mr. Barker after  
protest.

\$8384.16 are still under protest  
unpaid.

I think that the opinion  
of the mercantile community in  
New Orleans is unfavorable to the  
administration of the affairs of the  
Mint, arising from a want of punctu-  
al payments of certificates.

Examined in behalf of  
W. Maxwell

While Mr. Stine was the en-  
gineer of the Water-Works, belonging to the  
bank. I believe he employed W. Dineen  
his engagement was with Mr. Stine  
individually and not with the bank.

W. H. Hall.

June the 20<sup>th</sup> 1839.

While Mr. Bradford was under examination Mr. James W. Breedlove the Collector of the Customs of the Port of New Orleans, & Mr. George O'Brien the Cashier of the Commercial Bank, who had been summoned as witnesses appeared; Mr. Bradford's examination was suspended to make way for taking the testimony of the above named gentlemen.

Mr. Breedlove was sworn by the Notary.

Examined by Mr. Stidell the Commissioner

My transactions with the Mint have been very limited, I have occasionally paid there money on drafts drawn by the Treasury to a considerable amount. I once made a deposit of about \$1000 in bullion and hammered dollars & a certificate of deposit was returned, which on being sent to the Mint about three weeks or months afterwards, the amount was sent to me principally in half dollars.

Mr. Breedlove.

W. S. Brundage

During the suspension of specie payments many of the payers of duty bonds called on me & inquired whether I would receive the certificates of the Branch Mint in payment of these bonds as specie was difficult to be obtained & at a premium varying from 10 to 25 per cent. I was inclined to receive the certificates of the Mint in levied accounts from such persons as had large amounts to pay, or such persons as found difficulty in raising money. The amount received by me was about \$20,000 about 10 or 11,000 of which I transferred to the Merchants bank, & about 8 or 9,000 to the Commercial bank.

The first amount named I have never since heard of.

The amount held by the Commercial Bank remained unpaid up to a short time since. Some weeks ago the Cashier of the Commercial Bank informed me that he had

Mr. Brundage

that he had made repeated applications for the amount in Coin, that he could neither get coin nor any satisfactory promise at what time it could be had: & that the Bank was determined to have the Certificates protested and demand of me the amount, on which I had placed my endorsement as Collector. I then stated to the Cashier that it was very unpleasant to me to learn that the Mint could not deliver the Coin and still more unpleasant to learn that they were determined to enter protest on the several Certificates held by them and requested that the Bank would delay proceeding to such a step, and that I would endeavor to have some arrangement made by which the Mint could pay up all the certificates. To this delay the Bank consented, I immediately addressed a note to the Treasurer of the Mint informing him of the course intended by the Bank and begged of him to take up these certificates in reply to my note

W. B. Burdette

that the Courier had failed to furnish him with coin consequently he could not take up the Certificates, about this time. The Superintendent of the Mint called on me for the purpose of effecting some arrangement by which he could take up all the Certificates then out, which amounted to about \$50,000 or that \$50,000 would pay all the pressing demands. Which of these remarks were made by Mr. Bradford I do not now recollect. I informed Mr. Bradford, that as collector of the Customs I could not aid him in such an arrangement, but as President of the Atchafalaya Bank I would agree to furnish \$50,000 in specie, upon his producing evidence of the Secretary of the Treasury having placed to the Credit of the Bank at the U. S. Mint in Philadelphia that sum. To this proposition Mr. Bradford replied that he was under the impression the deposit would be made in Philadelphia on his

application to the Secretary of the Treasury.

Mr. Bradford addressed a letter to the Secretary asking the amount in Philadelphia. I, also, wrote to the Secretary of the Treasury informing him of the great complaints of the holders of the Certificates & of their threats to have them protested, & stated the proffer made by me to Mr. Bradford to furnish the \$50,000 in specie, on a similar amount being deposited at the Mint in Philadelphia.

I also informed the Secretary that from what I had heard through the City, there must be something wrong at the Mint, & that my opinion was, that the public interest required an investigation into the affairs of the Mint; & recommended that a competent man should be sent out for that purpose.

In my communication Mr. Winbury answered, that large sums of money had been already furnished to this branch

Mr. Winbury

Mr. Bradford

and that no further sums could be now advanced to it and if the holders of the certificates were not satisfied to wait until the Mint could furnish the coin they had the right to demand and receive the amount in bullion. Mr. Woodbury further informed me that an investigation into the affairs of the Mint had been ordered.

On the receipt of this letter I met Mr. Bradford in the street & informed him of its contents. He replied that the Mint could not return to the holders of the certificates their several amounts in bullion, as their several parcels deposited could not be identified.

Mr. Bradford then stated to me, that he felt assured that he would be enabled to take up the certificates held by the Commercial Bank in the course of a week or ten days.

This information I immediately communicated to the Cashier of the Bank who has agreed

Mr. Brewster

to wait ten days; the ten days expired and the bank again informed me that they had applied for the amount, and had received no satisfactory information as to any specific time when the amounts would be paid to them and consequently they should have the certificate protested, which they had done as I was furnished with notices as undersigned, when I have heard nothing more of the protest or certificate.

The Certificates taken up as Collector in payment of duty Bonds & protested are as follows viz.

Silver Bullion

No 24

dated 22 June 1838 for of  
Wm. Lizardi & Co  
for. . . . \$1725.50

Gold Bullion

No 17

dated 28 June 1838 in for  
Sum. . . . 381. 61

Silver Bullion

No 16

dated 14 May 1838 in  
for of Sumner & Sons & Co for. 343. 85

\$7450.98

Mr. Bruce Love

On being asked whether he had formed any satisfactory opinion of the evident dissatisfaction with the public visitation to the Mint.

Answers I have never been in the building but once previous to this day. And then it was while the Machinery was about being put up.

I have no knowledge of the administration of the affairs within the Mint.

My acquaintance with the Officers is confined to Mr. Bradford & Mr. Forstall, I have seen G. Hunt but once before.

Questioned as to the competency of the Officers

Answers. I have long known Mr. Forstall I believe him to be incompetent to discharge his duties at the Mint, I have long looked upon him as being incompetent to the transaction of any business, he was formerly a Cotton Broker & I consider him as incompetent for that occupation.

I never became acquainted with

Mr. Bradford.

Mr. Bradford until about the period of his appointment to the Mint, since that period I have had frequent occasion to meet him at my office. I have had many conversations with him.

The opinion I have formed of Mr. Bradford, is, that he is wanting in the energy necessary to his station & I once said to him "If I was Captain I would be Captain". This opinion I have never before expressed, unless called for, as on this occasion, never would have done so.

Being unacquainted with the other officers I have no opinion of their competency.

Examined on behalf of  
Mr. Bradford.

At about the time of Mr. Bradford's taking charge of the Mint he called upon me and expressed a desire of going on to Philadelphia to make himself acquainted with his duties, he said they were new to him and that he was anxious

to make himself familiar with them. That he had not funds sufficient to defray his expenses and requested of me to take his draft in order to furnish him with the means, I answered that I was not authorized so to do & would not.

Mr. Bradford's object being to go through the Mint in Philadelphia & by his explanation there to learn his duties.

Ques. Did you ever hold any conversation previous to that time with any individual connected with the Mint in relation to Mr. Bradford's contemplated trip to Philadelphia, & if so who was the person and what was the conversation?

Ans. I have no such recollection, have no means of knowing what was Mr. Bradford's conduct in his official duties & intercourse with the Government or the Director at Philadelphia.

I do not know how Mr. Bradford has conducted his official business here.

Mr. Bradford

Question. Have you any reason to believe that the payment of the certificates you have mentioned would have been withheld by the Mint, had it been furnished by the Coiner with the means of doing so?

Ans. I have no reason to believe that the payment would have been withheld if the proper officer had had the means of doing so; I have always looked upon Mr. Bradford & Mr. Forstall as honest men.

Quest. What gave rise to the remark which you have stated to have made to Mr. Bradford that "If you were Captain you would be Captain"?

Ans. The remark was produced by a conversation I had with Mr. Bradford on the subject of the other officers of the Mint. Mr. Bradford had said that some of the other officers did not do their duty & that he could not get it done by them. It was then I said that I would have it done or know the reasons why it

W. Bradford

why it was not done, that if I was Captain I would be Captain.

At this conversation Mr. Bradford informed me that he had applied for the removal of some of the Officers.

Examined on behalf of  
Messrs. Maxwell & Tyler

Ques. Did you ever undertake to decide which of the Officers was faulty & concur in the recommendation of their removal?

Ans. I never did. I would not recommend the removal of an Officer, without a hearing. I think I may have said, that if the Officers, complained of were thus guilty of dereliction that they ought to be removed.

Ques. Have any circumstances come to your knowledge to induce you to believe that Mr. Maxwell the Master & Refiner has ever combined or cooperated with the bank, press, or with members of Congress to put down the bank? Must at New Orleans

Mr. Bradford.

Ans. &c.

Just. Have any circumstances come to your knowledge to induce you to believe that the official conduct of the Coiner & Minter & Refiner or either of them has been influenced by any aversion or opposition to the Government?

Ans. I have no knowledge

Examination of W. Hall  
Cashier of the Commercial Bank,  
by W. Stedell the Commissioner.  
W. Hall was sworn by the  
Notary.

I am the Cashier of the Commercial Bank. The amount of gold certificates of the Mint which were held on the 17<sup>th</sup> inst. by the Bank was \$14,329.09 including costs of protests.

The amount of the New Orleans Branch, Mint, Silver certificates held by the bank at the same period 17<sup>th</sup> inst. was \$4,321.35 including costs of protests. Which said amount in gold & silver includes all held by the bank in the month

W. B. Brewster  
W. Hall.

# RG104 Entry 24B

June 22, 1839

Abstract of Testimony  
by  
David Bradford, Superintendent;

June 22<sup>d</sup> 1839

Met Specieally to adjournment at 4  
O'clock P.M.

The same persons present.

Examination of M<sup>r</sup>. Bradford  
resumed.

Examined on behalf of M<sup>r</sup>  
Maxwell

Question. In whose hand writing are  
the first pages of the Weighers Book?

Answer. M<sup>r</sup>. Richard Parker's.

Quest. How long has M<sup>r</sup>. Parker been  
in the employment of the Mint?

Answer. Since the 18<sup>th</sup> of April last.

Quest. Is there in the Treasurers Office  
a book similar in appearance to the  
"Weighers Book" on which the  
accounts are in the hand writing of the  
Clerk who was in the employment of the Mint  
at the time they profess to bear date?

Ans. There is a book labelled "Weigh-  
ers' book" in the hand writing of  
M<sup>r</sup>. Lilly who was employed in  
the month of June or July 1838.

The pages in the hand writing  
of M<sup>r</sup>. Lilly are 2, 3, 4,  
and 6, 30, and 31, 200 and 201

M<sup>r</sup>. Bradford

W. Bradford

The pages 6 and 7 are in the hand writing of my son Benjamin.

Pages 8 and 9 202 & 203 are in Mr. Parker's writing; & these are all the pages any entries are made.

The first entry in the hand writing of Mr. Lilly is made 8<sup>th</sup> 1838 and his last entry in July 29<sup>th</sup> 1838.

The entries of my son Benjamin are from the date of March 31<sup>st</sup> 1838 to February 1<sup>st</sup> 1839.

The entries in the hand writing of Mr. Lilly have been crossed out and also those in the hand writing of Benjamin as appears from the said book now produced. Is not the book in which the entries are thus crossed the original Weigher's Book kept in the Treasurer's Office?

Ans. It is.

Quest. Was or was not the book introduced at the early part of this investigation entitled the Weigher's Book, intended as a substitute for the said original?

Weyher's Book.

Ans. It was intended to be in the place of the original.

On selecting the first entries in the listing of Mr. Lilly, and I first suggested to the Clerk to get another book and draw the old one when my proposition was concurred in I ordered the porter to get another and to my surprise he returned in about an hour with the Weyher's book now used.

Quest. By whom was it concurred in?

Ans. Both Mr. Cemetery and Mr. Parker.

Quest. When did this happen?

Ans. May 21<sup>st</sup> 1839.

Quest. Who crossed the entries in the original book?

Ans. Does not know.

Quest. Did you ever enquire?

Ans. Subbed Mr. Cemetery's why it was done and to satisfy me that the entries were erroneous or informal.

Quest. Did he inform you when this error or informality was discovered?

Mr. Cemetery

Ans. No.

Quest. Do you not believe from your conversations with Mr. Dimity that he crossed those entries?

Ans. I understood Mr. Dimity to approve of them.

Quest. Was the original book sent to the Stationer's for the purpose of having the lettering of the New Book to conform or for what other purpose?

Ans. It was sent solely for the purpose of the dimensions and lettering, that they might conform, not for the purposes of similar binding & marbling.

Quest. Do they not both conform in the size, binding, marbling, lettering & general appearance?

Ans. They do, and this excited my surprise when the porter brought it. The porter reported that the Stationer said that it was the last that he had, and that he was busy in getting it.

Quest. Do not the ruling & the pages of the paper conform with the original book?

Mr. Bradford.

Ans. They do.

Quest. Are there not in the original book 1499 pages?

Ans. Yes.

Quest. Are they not with the exception of the pages above enumerated as written on fair & in a condition to receive entries?

Ans. Yes.

Quest. Are the Coiner's accounts kept in the original Weighers book.

Ans. No. But in the original Weighers book the settlements of the Treasurer with the Coiner from May 1838 to July 1838 are copied & written by the latter in the handwriting of W. Little.

There is also copied in the same book the settlement between the Treasurer & Coiner from May 31<sup>st</sup> 1838 to January 16<sup>th</sup> 1839 in the handwriting of J. W. Parker.

Quest. Do the said original Weighers book contain the entries of the accounts between the Melter and Refiner with the Treasurer?

Ans. It contains a copy of the settlements between the Melter & Refiner from July 1838 including

W. Bradford

dates of July 7, 10, 11, 12, 19, 19 followed  
by entry of June 9<sup>th</sup> 1838 on the debit  
side, & on the Credit side are several  
entries of July with specifications of  
the days.

This account is also crossed.

Next follows a copy of account &  
settlement of said Miller & Refiner  
with Edmund Verrill Treasurer com-  
mencing March 31<sup>st</sup> 1838 and  
ending January 1839 & purporting  
to be signed 31<sup>st</sup> January 1839 also crossed.

Next follows copy of account of  
Miller & Refiner with Treasurer com-  
mencing March 31<sup>st</sup> 1838 bal-  
anced in January 1839 and con-  
taining an entry dated February  
1<sup>st</sup> 1839 all in Richard Parker's hand-  
writing.

Next follows copy of Miller & Refiner's  
account with Treasurer com-  
mencing March 31<sup>st</sup> 1838 and run-  
ning to July 11<sup>th</sup> 1838 in the hand-  
writing of M. S. Lilly and crossed.

Next follows copy of Miller  
& Refiner's account with Treasurer  
commencing 31<sup>st</sup> March 1838 &

Mr. Bradley

running down to April 30<sup>th</sup> 1839  
in the handwriting of Richard  
Parker.

Next follows copy of account of  
Chief Coiner with Treasurer commencing  
May 21<sup>st</sup> 1838 & running down to July 27<sup>th</sup> 1838  
in Mr. Lillis' hand writing & settled.

Next follows Copy of Coiner's  
account with Treasurer commencing  
May 31<sup>st</sup> 1838 & running down  
to the 16<sup>th</sup> of January 1839, which is  
the last entry in the book & is upon  
pages 202 & 203. The other accounts  
above detailed covering pages 2,  
3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 30, 31, 32, & 33.

Ques. In what book or books  
are the originals to be found from  
where these Copies have been taken.  
Ans. From no books. The settle-  
ments were made & signed in sep-  
arate sheets of paper in January  
last. In July 1838 the warrants  
were made up & signed from ac-  
counts stated. The settlements of  
accounts I believe are in the Treasurer's  
Office. The pages mentioned are copies of  
such settlements & accounts stated

Mr. Bradford

By W<sup>m</sup> Middell.

Ques. Is there any book kept in the Treasurer's Office in which is carefully recorded on the very day of any transfer between the Treasurer's Office & the Melters & Refiners, the particulars of the Nature & amount of such transfers.

Ans. There is no such book in the Treasurer's Office, there is however a careful record of the Transfers of Bullion from the Treasurer to the Melters & Refiners which is entered in the Register's of Gold & Silver Bullion & this by the express understanding of the Melters & Refiners, the Clerks & myself from March 1838 to February 1839.

And this understanding I think continues up to this time un-  
disputed, with the exception of the Casas deposit.

There is a book purporting to be a record of transfers of Bullion from the Treasurer to the Melters and Refiners commencing March 18<sup>th</sup> 1838 in the hand-writing

W<sup>m</sup> Bradford

W. S. Brachford.

of Mr. Liley  
 Ques. In the said book thus com-  
 menced by Mr. Liley are there  
 any entries of deliveries to Mr. H.  
 Rogers subsequent to 25<sup>th</sup> Janu-  
 ary 1839 down to May 20<sup>th</sup> 1839.

Ans. There are none between Jan-  
 25<sup>th</sup> 1839 to May 20<sup>th</sup> in the said book.  
 Ques. Were there not large &  
 frequent deliveries of cotton,  
 between the Treasurer & Mr. H.  
 Rogers between the 25<sup>th</sup> January  
 to the 20<sup>th</sup> of May 1839.

Ans. There were almost daily  
 deliveries I think from Jan 25<sup>th</sup> to  
 April 25<sup>th</sup> 1839, & from that last  
 period deposits had been received  
 for last mths.

This daily delivery was at  
 the strenuous suggestion of the  
 Mr. H. Rogers for his convenience.  
 Examination resumed  
 on behalf of W. S. Brachford  
 Ques. Is it possible from the gold  
 or silver cotton register to as-  
 certain on what particular  
 day any particular amount of cotton

bullion has been delivered to the Minter & Refiner?

Ans. It is, I know that the first entry on the 8<sup>th</sup> of March 1834, 26 Bars of silver deposited by Lizardi & Co. were delivered to the Minter & Refiner as appears on the register. I have no such particular recollection of the other entries but was present when many deliveries were made by the Treasurer.

By Mr. Stidell.

Quest. Can you tell by the Register on what day of April Charles Boyland's deposit of silver was delivered to the Minter & Refiner.

Ans. On the 10<sup>th</sup> of April, I think so because I know it was a small deposit given to me for assay & redelivered after assay to the Minter.

It is possible that it might have been on the 11<sup>th</sup>.

It appears by the bullion register that this deposit was received at the Mint on the 10<sup>th</sup> of April.

Mr. Bradford

on the 15<sup>th</sup>. On the weighing book the deposits of C. Boylan appears to have been received at the Mint on the 9<sup>th</sup> of April & it is possible that it might have been delivered on the 9<sup>th</sup> it being a small deposit.

Being asked from inspection of the Weighing-Book & Register whether he should be able to swear that Charles Boylan's deposit was delivered to the Mint on the 9<sup>th</sup> 10<sup>th</sup> or 11<sup>th</sup> April. Answer that I am certain from the inspection of the books that it was on one of those days. Ques. What do the words "when received" mean in the Register of Silver Bullion.

Ans. I do not know whether they mean the date before or the day of assay.

Ques. Would it appear that James H. Conner's deposit was received on the 10<sup>th</sup> of April 1839.

Ans. Yes & this deposit is dated 16<sup>th</sup> of April 1839, under the words "when received" in the bullion register.

W. B. Bradburn

Mr. Maxwell

Quest. Can you state from examination of the Bulletin Register on what day this deposit was delivered to the *Mutual & Refiner*?

Ans. I can not.

Quest. Would you not consider it insecure to rely on the Bulletin Register to ascertain on what day the bullion was delivered to the *Mutual & Refiner*?

Ans. I would.

Examination resumed  
by Mr. Maxwell

Quest. Which of the two books contains a true copy of the first account settled with the *Mutual & Refiner*?

Ans. The first account is contained in the original book in Mr. Lilly's hand-writing in which I issued one warrant. The new book contains an amount of monthly deliveries, from Treasurer to *Mutual* in which monthly warrants have been made out. The first account in the new book is in Mr. Parker's writing.

W. Bradford

Just. When were these Monthly warrants made up?

Ans. Since the first of February last. By W. Midell

Just. Of what account are the entries in the old Meyers book between Miller & Treachner (commencing March 8<sup>th</sup> 1838 & going down in detail by daily dates and names of depositors to July 1838) a copy be pleased to direct the Clerk of the Treasurer to produce the original of such copy in the witnesses book?

Ans. I find that the Clerk produced only an abstract from the accounts, & I think that the account from which the Clerk copied is in the possession of Mr. Maxwell. I distinctly remember having seen Mr. Lally copying the entries from these sheets.

I think that I have heard Mr. Maxwell say that these entries were made by Mr. Lally from his, Mr. Maxwell's accounts

which I think were also in Mr. Lill's hand-writing when I saw Lill copying them.

(Then Mr. Bradford called for the books and the accounts of the Minter & Refiner on the subject here before referred to.)

The book was produced by Mr. Maxwell. It is a book labelled on the back "Silver" "Minter and Refiner's Office."

The reading of the book produced is as follows:

"Dr. Minter & Refiner has of Silver Bullion in charge with Treasurer" C.

And purports to contain daily entries in detail of deposits of Bullion received by the Minter & Refiner with a particular description of depositors names & of the weight, quality &c.

Mr. Maxwell added that he does not know that he has ever received any account on

W. Bradford

Mr. Bradford

Settlement from the Treasurer.  
Mr. Bradford says that he does not see in the book produced any writing of Mr. Lilly's although he has frequently seen Mr. Lilly writing in Mr. Haywell's Office.

By Mr. Haywell  
Ques. Are there not to be found in the weigh-Book & Registers in the Treasurer's Office all materials in detail of state amounts & names from which to make up the original account of which you consider the details accounts in the Original Weigh-Book a Copy.

Ans. Yes.

Adjourned to tomorrow 4 O'clock P.M.

At the sitting of the 24<sup>th</sup> Mr. Haywell gave the following written explanation which was received.

That in answer to the question, whether I had received

any statements may be fully understood: I would add that I had in my mind such statements or copies of settlements as were presented that evening & also those referred to by Mr. Dracien when speaking of the settlements made by Mr. Lally, of the settlement in August 1838 from which the said accounts in the register book were transcribed.

I have received the balances at different periods on slips of paper without date or signature up to the time of the last deposit. About that time on request I was given a statement of the whole acct. of Silver Bullion delivered to me specifying date &c. of the transfers; I was furnished with an account current of Silver Bullion with the signature of the Treasurer; I also an account showing the balance of gold without his signature.

# RG104 Entry 24B

June 24, 1839

Abstract of Testimony  
by

David Bradford, Superintendent;  
Demitry, Treasurer's Clerk;  
Damien Casas, Deposit Clerk

June 24<sup>th</sup> 1839.

Met agreeably to adjournment  
Same persons present

W. Maxwell submitted  
a written explanation of his answer to a question propounded to him at the last meeting & which he requested to be annexed to the proceedings of that day. This request was granted.

By W. Stetell

The accounts for settlement between the Treasurer & the Matter & Referee & Comin were made out from various books, on flying sheets. W. Lilly suggested the propriety of providing a book in which the records those accounts which on being communicated to W. Maxwell he approved of. The book was purchased by my order & was styled the "Neighbors book" at the instance of some person I do not know who.

The first book styled the "Neighbors book" was purchased on the 7<sup>th</sup> of July 1838 & the second

W. B. Brudford

W. Bradford

book of the same style was purchased 21<sup>st</sup> of May 1839.

There was no such book sent by the Director at Philadelphia for the use of this branch Mint.

The difference between the book entitled the *Magister's Book* and the book called the *weighing book* is that the *weighing book* contains an account of the daily deposits, the weight before & after melting, & the *Magister's book* was intended for the purposes above enumerated.

The books sent from Philadelphia were "the *Silver Bullion weighing Book*"

Second The *Gold Ditto*.

The *Register of Gold Bullion*

Fourth. The *register of silver ditto*.

5<sup>th</sup> The *Bullion Journal*.

6<sup>th</sup> The *Bullion ledger*.

7<sup>th</sup> The *Journal of ordinary accounts*

8<sup>th</sup> Ledger of ordinary accounts  
9<sup>th</sup> A large number of small  
bank books.

The last book denominated  
the Weigher's book was substi-  
tuted for the original ones,  
because, I found the original  
one defaced & it had consumed  
very erroneously, & I wish the  
new book to contain a copy of  
the monthly reports of bullion re-  
ceived for coinage & coins struck  
and also a copy of the quarterly  
accounts between the Treasurer,  
Melter & Refiner, & Camier.

I do not know why this  
book was called the Weigher's book  
& I think the title very erroneous.  
I think it ought to have been  
called "Copy of returns by Treasu-  
rer to Superintendent" or re-  
cord of Monthly & Quar-  
terly reports."

Mr Bradford has sta-  
ted that he had drawn up in  
writing his further reasons for  
not believing Mr. Daywell to be an

Mr Bradford

Mr. Bradford

44.

honest man. The receiving of the reasons was postponed.

On Behalf of W. Magwell  
I do not know what Mr. Magwell's advice to Mr. Lilly was with regard to the keeping of the weigher's book & whether that advice was followed or not.

Quest. Please point out the errors in the original Weigher's book which induced the crossing of the entries in the original Weigher's book.

Ans. Mr. Dismore from whom I derived my information is better able to answer the question.

Quest. In what book are the accounts opened between the Settler & Refiner & the Treasurer; also between the Treasurer, & the Officer referred to in your letter to the director of the Mint dated 18<sup>th</sup> February 1839.

Ans. In answer to this question I refer to the Treasurer & his Clerk &

Ques. Were not the leaves which were torn from the weighing torn to pieces & thrown into the fire place among the rubbish of the office & rescued therefrom after the discovery by Mr. Magrill of the depredation which had been committed on the lock.

Ans. From my own knowledge I know nothing about it & I refer to Mr. Parker's statement.

Ques. Did not Dr. Hort send back by you an assay piece which he had supposed he had taken from the Casas deposit & saying that it was a mistake; that he was then satisfied he had taken a piece from each of two bars of Eicholt's deposit; that he should have taken but one, & therefore supposed that the other had been taken from the Casas Deposit?

Ans. Dr. Hort sent back a piece, which he stated had not been assayed. I do not now recollect the opinion expressed by Dr. Hort on the Casas deposit, at that time.

W. B. Bradlee

I brought the assay pieces from the assayer's room to the weighing room & compared it with the bars of the Tichnor deposits & it did not appear to be taken therefrom.

The bars of the Tichnor deposits were in the possession of the Meltter & Refiner & brought from his vault into the weighing room & were represented to be the Tichnor deposits by the Meltter & Refiner. Whether they were or not I do not know. But from the first I was of the impression, & now have a strong conviction that they were not the Tichnor deposits.

Ques. Did an investigation in to the Casas Deposits take place after Dr. Hunt refused to be present, in the presence of the other Officers of the New Orleans Branch Mint.

Ans. An investigation was taken place without the presence of the other Officers being required, having determined to make it myself; but the investigation

Mr. Bradford

Mr. Braden.

was never concluded.

I first ordered the aff-  
sayre to repay the loans  
represented at the Techno-  
deposit, & I next sought  
for & inquired the J. Casas  
about a week afterwards the  
number of Dollars he depos-  
ited, which I found to be \$200  
Mr. Cimity told me that his  
original impression was that  
it was a deposit of \$200 but  
that he had not counted them  
Just. Did you hear Cimity  
say that if the Casas depos-  
ite could not be found that  
he would make it up?

Ans. Cimity told me that  
he had said so sarcastically  
to the Author & Refiner.

I know that he was the  
Treasurer's Clerk & was bound  
for all that he had received  
& not delivered to the Author.

Just. What means had Mr.  
Mogwell for calculating the  
amount of unmetted coin in the Treas-  
urer's vault when the difficulty occurred  
about the Casas deposits?

Ans. The records in the  
weigh-room.

Mr. Bradford.

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Quest. What was the amount found to be on hand?

Ans. I do not know.

Quest. Will you produce the book & point out the entries that they may be here examined?

Ans. I refer to Mr. Diminty.

Quest. Did the Treasurer approve of Mr. Spefford's refusing to deliver to you the key of his Vault? Did you apply to the Treasurer for it before you demanded it from his clerk?

Ans. Did you not dismiss the Treasurer's Clerk for refusing to deliver you the key & maintaining that it was the duty of the Treasurer to keep the key of his Vault?

Ans. I do not know whether the Treasurer approved or disapproved of said Spefford's refusal. I applied to the Treasurer before demanding the key of his Clerk. I did not ask Mr. Spefford for the key, but requested the Treasurer to get the key from Mr. Spefford, and the reply Mr. Forstall returned was, the gentleman say, that Mr. Diminty

Mr. Bradford.

46  
 Mr. Quincy ought not to have the chief asked for the reasons for dismissing Bradford. I prefer to them written at the time under date of the 16<sup>th</sup> of January 1839.

Quint. Has not the warrant book together with the instructions from Philadelphia arrived or ready as early as July 1838?

Ans. The instructions were, but the warrants were not ready till September 1838.

Quint. Has the money from which the ordinary expenses of the New Orleans Branch Mint were paid been kept separate from that received from that for coinage in exchange for small coin & are the accounts of payments kept separate?

Ans. I refer for answer to the Treasurer & his Clerk.

Quint. Are you of the same opinion as to the condition of the Treasurer's books as was expressed in your letter to the Director covering a letter from the undersigned of 16<sup>th</sup> February 1839  
 Ans. Same.

Mr. Bradfords

Question. Do you know who prepared for his signature the Treasurer's letter of the 16<sup>th</sup> of July 1839?

Ans. I do not know.

Quest. Did you or D<sup>r</sup>. Hunt take any part or assist in framing that letter?

Ans. I did not. I thought Mr. Dimmick prepared it by the direction of Mr. Forstell. I do not know whether D<sup>r</sup>. Hunt assisted in preparing it.

Quest. In detailing to the Director your opinion & the reasons for that opinion in relation to the Casus depositus, why did you omit so important a fact as having seen it in the letter & Refusive room? After it was omitted, if you then suppose you had seen it?

Ans. I do not know why I rather think it came to my recollection since.

Quest. If there is any confusion in the numbering on the weighing book, how could Mr. Maywell be answerable therefor?

W. Bradford

48.

Answer. I do not know that he is so answerable as to what I have heard from Mr. Quincy & of the others.

Quest. Was it not the duty of the Treasurer to furnish the Matter & to place with the numbers of each parcel sent in?

Ans. I think it was.

Quest. Did not Dr. Horton's letter do you give for reason that he believed the Dollars from Caracas were melted, because they were entered on the right hand side of the weight book?

Ans. I believe that was one of the reasons given by Dr. Hort.

Quest. Will you produce that letter?

Ans. It is on file already - If not, I will produce it. I think I sent two original letters, from Dr. Hort. to the Director in Philadelphia, & I think that reason was contained in one of them. I enquired of Dr. Hort, whether he would furnish me with copies. He said that he would, and he furnished those on file.

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Question. Could you not long since, have paid the small certificates such as \$47.<sup>25</sup>/<sub>100</sub>, \$1173.<sup>33</sup>/<sub>100</sub> & \$243.<sup>55</sup>/<sub>100</sub> held by the Commercial bank and other small ones held by others, & thereby have paid the amount of \$6 on each, which has accrued, & also prevented much of the Public Clamour.

Ans. I do not know. I refer this question for answer to the investors.

Ques. Has there not been paid out twenty times that amount for subsequent deposits.

Ans. I do not know.

Mr. Bradford

5. / (40)

18

Collected.

June 24<sup>th</sup> 1839

Mr. Demitry was sworn,  
Examined by Mr. Shideau

He says he is an accountant  
has been in the Dry good business  
four years. That he has taught  
book keeping, when he was only  
sixteen years old. He is now  
28 years old.

I have had substantially  
the control of the affairs of  
Mr. Forstall, the Treasurer's  
office, while I was his clerk.

From the 1<sup>st</sup> of June 1839  
Mr. Forstall usually comes  
to his office every day, except  
Sundays. He comes at about  
a quarter before 10 in the  
morning & remains until  
about 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> or quarter of 2 o'clock  
P.M.

Being asked, whether  
Mr. Forstall is, or is not  
competent to the duties of  
the office of Treasurer.

Answered that being a clerk  
he does not think that he  
should decide upon the com-  
petency of the officers over him  
of decision answering—

Mr. Demitry

June 24<sup>th</sup>

2

Quest. Was there any other reason for tearing the leaf out of the weighing book, than the desire of having a clean or fair book?

Ans. The only reason was to have a clean & fair book to hand to the new clerk.

Quest. Was this leaf torn out without the authority of the Treasurer or Superintendent?

Ans. Yes.

Quest. Why was no date kept in the weighing book of the delivery of Bullion to the Melters of the Refiner?

Ans. I followed precedent, it had never been done.

Quest. Are there in the Treasurer's office any contemporaneous records of the delivery of the Lasas deposite to the Melters of the Refiner?

Answer. None detailed, but the general usage, which has been followed according to the Melters directions.

Quest. What were the original figures on the left hand side of the column in the weighing book on which the figures

- No Documentary

June 24<sup>th</sup>

3

173<sup>rd</sup> 50 are written?

Ans. I am inclined to believe that they were 86, for when weighed found to be 173<sup>rd</sup> 50, before melting.

Question What were the exact figures written in the said column at the time when the Bullion was received?

Ans. I am inclined to believe 86.

Quest. Did not this same place once contain the figures 176<sup>th</sup> 50?

Ans. No. It appears that there were an 8 of a 6 before. Now there is over the 8 a 7 over the 6 a 3 yet now reads 173<sup>rd</sup> 50.

Quest. What do these figures 173<sup>rd</sup> 50 written over an erased one denote?

Ans. The weight of the Casas deposite before melting.

Question When were these changes made in these figures?

Ans. Upon weighing them.

Question Why were the figures 86 originally put down as the weight of the Casas deposite?

Answer If it was 86, which

In Column 3

June 24<sup>th</sup>

I presume from their being in my own handwriting, because persons were in the habit of depositing only \$100 which were taken at the average of 86<sup>th</sup> 50. without being weighed but perceiving by the bulk that it must have been more, I weighed it & found it to be 113<sup>th</sup> 50.

Quest. From the appearance of the basas deposite, could you suppose that it was only \$100.

Ans. It was from the appearance that I supposed it to be more.

Being asked if he has any clear & distinct recollection of how the figures 86<sup>th</sup> 50 were put down

Answer. I have not, except from analogy.

Question Did you ever make any entries in the weighing book without either counting or weighing?

Ans. All the small reserved deposits were entered without being weighed of them counted by the Sister.

Mr. Density

June 24<sup>th</sup> 5  
for the purpose of being re-  
fined.

Quest. Were the figures of  
small deposits sometimes  
entered before being counted  
or being weighed?

Ans. The small deposits  
on the torn leaf were entered  
before being either counted  
or weighed. The reason for  
this was to ascertain the  
priority of right of the depos-  
itors to receive their small  
change.

Quest. What is the meaning  
of the words "When received"  
in the caption of the Register  
of Silver Bullion?

Ans. It signifies the date  
of the assayers certificate.

Quest. If the weighing book  
had disappeared from the  
mint on the 18<sup>th</sup> of April 1834  
would there have existed in  
the mint any record of the  
Casas deposits?

Ans. There would have been  
no other way of scripping  
it, but Casas' receipt.

Quest. In how many, on  
the torn leaf, are the figures

Mr. Denney.

\* Do you consider the assaying  
book as a record of the transactions  
of the mint?  
Ans. As far as it relates to the  
assaying, it is a record of the  
assaying of the silver and gold.

June 24<sup>th</sup>

153.50, indicating the Casas depo-  
sits?

Ans. In my own.

Quest. What do these figures  
153.50, of the Damien Casas  
deposits in the weighing book  
denote?

Ans. The weight after melting  
& before assay.

Quest. When were these figures  
put then?

Ans. on the 18<sup>th</sup> of April.

Quest. How do you know  
they were put there on the  
18<sup>th</sup> of April?

Ans. Because I sent this  
deposit to the melter & it  
was returned to me melted  
on the same day.

Quest. When did you hand  
this Bullion to the assayer  
to be assayed?

Ans. I cannot tell meth-  
-ods reference to the certi-  
-ficate, the caption of the  
certificate was filled up  
by me before delivery to  
the assayer.

Quest. The report of the  
assayer being exhibited to  
witness he says that it was

Mr. Dennistoy

Mr. Democracy

June 24<sup>th</sup>

on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of April 1839  
delivered to him.

Quest. Why was not the basal  
Bulletin handed to Dr. Short  
on the 16<sup>th</sup> of April

Ans. Bulletin has never been  
assayed on the day of deposit  
except on one or two occasions.

Question. Why was not the date  
of this deposit, the name of  
the depositor, the description  
of number of Bulletin of the  
weight after melting filled  
up by you upon a Blank  
assayer's report on the 16<sup>th</sup> of  
April?

Ans. I cannot say whether  
these items were filled up on  
the Blank assayer's report on  
the 16<sup>th</sup> of April, but, it was  
certainly not later than the  
15<sup>th</sup>, because it is the upper  
date of the certificate.

Quest. Whether, at the time  
when the basal Bulletin  
was returned, after melting  
before assay by the Melters of  
Refiners to you, any discrepancy  
took place as to an excess  
of weight between you of the  
Melters of Refiners?

Mr. Dumitry

June 24<sup>th</sup>

Ans. No.

Quest. Did you observe at the time of receiving said Bullion after melting that you had put down the weight upon deposits at 173.50 & that the weight after melting gave 183.50?

Ans. As soon as I had an opportunity I remarked it to the Meltor of St. Louis; & not on the same day, it was the next, I thought that I had made a mistake, I mentioned it again on the 28<sup>th</sup> to the Meltor of St. Louis.

Quest. Who delivered that Bullion to you after melting?

Ans. I do not recollect.

Quest. Is it your custom to weigh Bullion as soon as it comes back from the Meltor's office?

Ans. Yes.

Quest. What is done with this Bullion after melting as soon as it is weighed by you?

Ans. I put it into the vault.

June 24<sup>th</sup>

Quest. Had you on the 16<sup>th</sup> of April any assistant in the Receiver's office?

Ans. At that time none other than Mr. Duccin, the Porter, but I cannot positively say whether he was present, tho' about the office.

Quest. What conversations took place, on the 16<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> or 18<sup>th</sup> of April between you & Mr. Maxwell in relation to this cause of weight of basas' deposits?

Ans. Mr. Maxwell paid no attention to my remarks stated above as to such cause.

Quest. Did you ever at any time have any definite discussion with him on the subject of this deposits, & if so, when?

Ans. I have no perfect recollection, but suppose that it was about the 22<sup>d</sup> or 23<sup>d</sup> of April.

Quest. Did you satisfy yourself before the 28<sup>th</sup> of April that the error as to weight of this deposits was your own?

Mr. Duccin

June 24<sup>th</sup>

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Ans. H. I have become satisfied, that there was no error on my part.

Quest. Were you so satisfied that there was no error on your part on the 22<sup>d</sup> of April.

Ans. H.

Quest. Did you make the payment to Casas yourself or was it made under your direction?

Ans. It was made by the Porter under my direction.

Quest. Was the receipt of the 16<sup>th</sup> of April in favor of Casas filled up by you in your own handwriting.

Ans. Yes.

Quest. By whom was it signed.

Ans. It was signed by myself, the signature was torn off, which is always done, or the receipt destroyed on the delivery of the certificate.

Quest. What is the meaning of the entry on the Neighing Book at the Casas in place of the words "paid in small change" (Turn over)

In Denial

June 25<sup>th</sup>

Q. When was that entry made?  
Ans. It was a memorandum made by me to know the amount of small change in the vault to guide me in the promises to depositors, & was, I believe, made on the 21<sup>st</sup> of April.

Q. Is the filling up of the Mint certificate in favor of Casas in your handwriting?  
Ans. Yes.

Q. When was this certificate issued to Casas, & when was it returned by him?

Ans. The issue & return by him, Casas, endorsed. These simultaneous, & the payment of the \$212.31 to Casas was also simultaneous.

Q. Why did you pay \$212.31 to Casas when he only held & produced a receipt for \$50?  
Ans. The Standard is calculated from the Gross weight after melting, & not before, & the value, from such Standard.

Q. Were you not aware of the fact

Mr. Secretary

June 24<sup>th</sup>

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that Mexican Dollars usually  
range at about the same  
standard?

Ans. There is great uniformity  
in Mexican Dollars.

Quest. Did Casas demand  
more than \$281?

Ans. I believe he received  
the money from the justice  
without counting it.

Quest. Why did you pay to  
Casas an exact over the ori-  
ginal receipt given to him  
without a demand of  
such excess by him, & before  
you had satisfied yourself  
on the subject of the discrepancy  
of the weight before & the weight  
after melting, then appear-  
ing on the weighing book?

Ans. ver. The actual weight  
after melting was 183.58 of  
the calculations are made  
from the gross weight after  
melting of just before.

Quest. Did you before the  
payment report this dis-  
crepancy either to the Treas-  
urer or to the Superintendent?

Ans. No.

Mr. Deming

Mr. Denney

June 24<sup>th</sup> 1859

Quest. Had the Superintendent ever before this period intimated to you any suspicion of dishonesty on the part of Mr. Haasell?

Ans. I believe not.

Quest. Did you make the entry of the Casas deposit in the Register of Silver Bullion if so at about what time?

Ans. I made it myself on the 18<sup>th</sup> of April 1859.

Quest. Are you sure you made it on that day?

Ans. I think so, because, as soon as I receive the Assayer's report I verify the calculations & I am in the habit of making the entries in the Register of Silver Bullion.

Quest. After the deposit of Casas was assayed, what did you do with it?

Ans. I do not recollect precisely, but it must have been returned to the melter the same day, or the day after. It is only since this Christmas time that the Melter of Refiner has refused to receive small deliveries

June 24

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Quest. Have you any record made at the time either in the Treasurer's office, or in your possession of the delivery of this Bullion after assay to the Melters of Refiner?

Ans. The directions of the Melters of Refiner were to charge him monthly with all the Bullion that came to the Mint.

Quest. Did you make any entry at the time of this delivery to the Melters of Refiner in a rough book?

Ans. I did not. The Melters of Refiner is not charged by the Gross weight, he is charged by the Standard weight according to the Assayer's report. The gross weight may weigh 1000 of the Standard only 500. This the clerk can only know from the Assayer's report.

Quest. Do you recollect whether any change in the weights of the basas reports still remained in the scales when it returned from the Melters of Refiner's office?

In Cemetery

June 24<sup>th</sup>

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Ans. Yes they had not been removed.

Quest. Do you recollect whether any change in the weight, thus remaining in the leads was necessary at these weighing either by addition or subtraction?

Ans. An addition was necessary.

Being asked whether the certificate in favor of basas remained in the book, without being cut out, before basas endorsed it.

Answered It is always left in the book when the given questions are simultaneous, as in this case.

June 25<sup>th</sup>, 1839.

Mr. Demetry, with reference to the question put on the 24<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> "Whether the certificate in favor of basas remained in the book, without being cut out, before he, basas, endorsed it" of his answer thereto, now desires to add the following "I am inclined to believe that it was cut out

Mr. Demetry

June 24<sup>th</sup> 1839.  
 Camille Casas was sworn  
 Examined by W. H. Hildell  
 the Commissioner  
 Question. Do you recollect receiving  
 a payment at the Mint for a de-  
 posit made by you on the 20<sup>th</sup> of  
 April.

Answer. I recollect having received  
 payment for a deposit made by  
 me at the Mint about the middle  
 of April. The deposit was made  
 by myself & four or five days in-  
 tervened between the payment &  
 the deposit at the Mint.

I made two deposits at the  
 Mint, for the first deposit I  
 received \$199.50 I believe that  
 the gentleman who paid me  
 thought that he had paid me  
 \$200, for he paid me in twenty  
 packages which he said were  
 of \$10 each package & on counting  
 them at home I found that one  
 contained one \$4.50.

This first payment  
 was about a month be-  
 fore the second deposit  
 the second deposit  
 was of \$200 for which  
 I received \$200.

W. H. Hildell

W. O. Casas

June 24<sup>th</sup>

The last deposit was of Mexican Dollars. The first deposit was composed of Mexican, Spanish, Portuguese & American Dollars.

I never made any other deposit than these two.

I am certain that I never received on either of these deposits more than \$200.

I remember signing in a book when I received payment for the first deposit. I did not read what I signed because I had confidence.

I am certain that I signed in a book, without reading, when I received the first payment.

On being shown the Mint Certificate for \$12.24 dated 20<sup>th</sup> of April 1839 endorsed with his name, he acknowledged the signatures but said that when he signed it, it was in a book, that he did not see the printed face of the paper when he signed.

Mr. D. Casas

June 24<sup>th</sup>

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On its being shown to him that the certificate undersigned by him, was for \$212.31. He said he had signed without having read it, because he had confidence - Is sure, however, that he only received \$199.50.

Witness is a Spanish Examined on behalf of Mr. Maxwell.

The gentleman in the Office, when I came to make the first deposit, weighed it & gave me a receipt.

The gentleman observed to me "I know very well it is \$200" I believe this was said to me after it was weighed.

When I came to get paid on this first deposit the gentleman in the Office said, "Mr. Casas you do not get any profit."

The person in the Office appeared to make some calculations before saying, but did not show them to me.

I was neither told by

Mr. D. Kulas

June 24<sup>th</sup>

The gentleman in the Office  
that I would lose three or  
four cents, or see a paper  
was shown to me to that  
effect, but which I cannot  
remember. I did not at-  
tend much to this, it  
being unimportant.

I cannot remember  
exactly what coins I de-  
posited on this first depos-  
ite, but they were of various  
countries & some of them  
of the United States. They were  
all Dollars.

Examined on behalf  
of M.<sup>r</sup> Bradford.

I took the money from the  
Mint, myself, carried it home  
& then counted two, three, or  
four packages.

The gentleman at the Mint  
had told me that there were \$200.  
There were Twenty packages.

I was told at the Mint that  
each package contained  
\$10.

One of the packages  
was marked \$9.50, & on  
counting it I found that

June 24<sup>th</sup>

it only contained that amount  
& therefore it was given by  
mistake because the packages  
were taken from a great many  
others.

The whole amount was paid  
to me in ten cent pieces &  
all the packages were of the same size.  
I am sure that there were not  
more than twenty.

Although I did not count  
all the money yet, it was more  
than the amount. I declared above to  
have received had been paid,  
now I would have known it.

M<sup>rs</sup> D. Casar

# RG104 Entry 24B

June 26, 1839

Abstract of Testimony  
by

Silvester Bremond, Doorkeeper;  
William P. Hort, Assayer;  
Asa Humphreys, Assistant M&R;  
Peter S. Leabich, Melter M&R

The report of the  
 Committee on the  
 subject of the  
 coinage of the  
 United States  
 is now before the  
 House of Representatives  
 and it is believed  
 that the report will  
 be of great service  
 to the country.  
 The report is  
 a very full and  
 complete one and  
 it is believed that  
 it will be of great  
 service to the  
 country.

The report of the  
 Committee on  
 Education, &c. &c. &c.  
 is now before the  
 House of Representatives  
 and is being  
 considered. The  
 report is very  
 interesting and  
 contains many  
 valuable suggestions  
 for the improvement  
 of the public  
 schools. It is  
 hoped that the  
 House will  
 take prompt  
 action upon it.

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Dr. West

June 26<sup>th</sup>

Bullion because I saw  
the number 100 stamped  
on the bar & number 100 was  
the number of the Casas,  
deposits entered in the weigh-  
ing books. I have no  
other means of identifying  
this deposit or any other. I  
have had doubts as to whether  
it was the Casas deposit  
which I assayed, which  
doubts have since been re-  
moved. The reasons for my  
doubts were, that 5 or 6 days  
after the assay Mr Bradford  
came to my room, told me  
that a bar No 100 & which  
I had concluded to be the Casas  
deposit was claimed by the  
Author & Refiner as part of  
the Tichner's deposit No 99  
& that it required the weight  
of No 100 to make the weight  
of Tichner's deposit No 99.

I observed to Mr  
Bradford that it was very  
extraordinary that Bullion  
marked with a certain num-  
ber should be claimed as be-  
longing to a deposit with  
a different number, that

Dr. West

June 26<sup>th</sup>  
 moreover when I took off  
 the assay pieces on the 18<sup>th</sup> of  
 April & was embarrassed  
 by the mode of measuring  
 & examining the Hallion spec-  
 imen critically, I referred to  
 the weigh book & to the best  
 of my knowledge & belief the  
 relative sizes of the different  
 bars corresponded with the  
 weights set down in the  
 weigh book, & I send out  
 for the Superintendent a di-  
 agram from recollection of  
 the comparative size of the  
 three bars which I now ex-  
 hibit to show the impression  
 then made in my mind, &  
 which diagram was about  
 thus, without pretending  
 to accuracy.



Mr. Bradford then told me  
 that on the Hallion being

Do West.

June 26<sup>th</sup>  
brought out by the Meltor  
& Refiner & running the  
bar N: 100 was required to  
make up the Tichnor deposite  
its N: 99. To satisfy myself  
I went down to see the Bullion  
weighed, & the Bullion then  
produced 2 bars of which  
were marked 99 & one bar  
100, did make the amount  
of Tichnor's deposite of 99.  
I was much surprised at  
the result so contrary to my  
anticipations, & great doubt  
for the time existed on my  
mind; so much so, that I  
drew a conclusion in a letter  
that I wrote to Mr. Bradford  
at that time that I had not  
assayed the Cases deposite, that  
it appeared to be missing &  
so far as related to its sup-  
posed appearance in the  
weighing room on the 18<sup>th</sup> of  
April, the Meltor & Refiner  
was operated.

As to the reasons  
for which these doubts  
as to whether I had assayed  
the Cases deposite were dissi-  
pated. They are as follows.

On West.

June 28<sup>th</sup>

1<sup>st</sup> On reflecting on the subject I could not feel satisfied that the bullion produced for assay & which had been 3 or 4 days in the possession of the Author & Refiner was the identical Bullion that I had seen & assayed on the 18<sup>th</sup>; the impression of the Correspondence between the relative sizes of the bars & the weights in the weigh book was revised with greater force than ever. Moreover I observed on N<sup>o</sup> 100 a countermark N<sup>o</sup> 2 which I did not observe on the 18<sup>th</sup> on the first occasion. I may be deceived as to the fact whether the countermark was on the bar N<sup>o</sup> 100 assayed on the 18<sup>th</sup>, but the peculiar circumstances I examined with peculiar care all the marks & countermarks on the Bullion. My decided impression is that on the 18<sup>th</sup> there was no countermark N<sup>o</sup> 2 on the N<sup>o</sup> 100. My strongest reason for this impression is that when there is one bar bearing the

Dr. West.

June 21<sup>st</sup> one 6  
~~number~~ number of 1 depos-  
 ite it is somewhat counterfeiting;  
 that is, where there is but  
 one bar. Another fact was  
 the unnecessary division  
 of the hundred dollars  
 of Technor's deposit into  
 two portions, as one would  
 well contain more than the  
 amount of those hundred  
 dollars viz. 321 of the.  
 Then, the irregularity in  
 the numbering; if N. 100  
 did belong to Technor's  
 deposit N. 99, why was  
 it marked 100, the number  
 of Casas' deposit.

Again, a circumstance  
 that made a strong impres-  
 sion on my mind was that  
 I had assigned nothing to  
 correspond with the title  
 of the French crowns of the  
 word deposit; the title of  
 French Crowns is known  
 in every Mint to be 909m.  
 I have never heard of any  
 counterfeits of that descrip-  
 tion of coin; the deposit  
 was made by the porter  
 of the Merchants Bank

Dr. West

June 26  
who is said to be one of  
the best judges of coin in  
the City; whilst the assay  
bar number 100 claims by  
Mr. Haswell as representing  
the French crowns belonging  
to the Chebner deposit, gave  
the title after repeated assays  
of Mexican Dollars falling  
13 m under the standard  
of French crowns.

Another reason was  
that I was informed by  
Mr. Bradford that the task  
in the Treasurer's office  
had been balanced and found  
correct.

Another reason. The cal-  
culation of the Auditor & the  
finder after the dispute of  
possession of that Bullion  
had caused that there must  
be a certain amount of  
reserved coin in the Vault  
which coins were weighed  
in his presence, where  
the result proved correct  
not including the Cases  
Deposits.

Another reason. The  
complaint of the Auditor &

June 26<sup>th</sup> 8  
 Replied to the Superintendent  
 on the 18<sup>th</sup> of April that  
 his order had been violated  
 in a certain case of deposits  
 of Mexican Dollars.

Next, the testimony of  
 the Porter who recollects dis-  
 tinctly having on the 18<sup>th</sup>  
 of April delivered to one of  
 the Auditor & Treasurer's men  
 a deposit of \$200 numbered  
 100.

I believe that the French  
 crowns of Tichnor's deposits  
 were not assayed.

Being asked why, if the  
 French crowns of Tichnor's  
 deposits had not been assay-  
 ed, by the witness and signed  
 on the 18<sup>th</sup> of April 1839 a re-  
 port of assay of Tichnor's  
 French crowns.

Ans. I observed at the time  
 that the title did not corres-  
 pond with the title of French  
 crowns, but supposed that  
 there might have been some  
 other coin mixed with them  
 to account for the difference  
 of title, & I signed it in the  
 regular routine of my duty.

Do Not

Dr. J. B. T.

June 26<sup>th</sup>

I did not feel quite free to withhold my signature. I believe that the usage in bringing the assayer's reports to me is in perfect accordance with the instructions of the Director as they are fulfilled and that whenever reports are brought to me the following items are filled up before forwarding. "The No. of the deposit - The date of the assay - The person by whom deposited, the descriptions of coins or Bullion - The Gross weight" are filled up by the Treasurer. The other columns in the provided report are filled up by the assayer after he has made his assay. Supposing that all the bullion mentioned in the assayer's report of the Treas. was deposited was really part of the Treas. deposit must then not have been a mistake in the description of a portion of the Treas. deposit committed in the weighing book, or in the report

Dr. H. H.

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June 26<sup>th</sup>  
 of assay prepared at the New  
 Orleans office?  
 Ans. The conclusion may  
 be fairly drawn that the  
 misdescription by calling  
 it French crown both in  
 the weighing & in the assay-  
 er's report has been made of  
 a portion of the Hibner depos-  
 -ite but I consider that  
 neither myself nor the  
 weigher would be account-  
 able for such misdescrip-  
 -tion in such a case.

When a great discrepan-  
 -cy exists between the title  
 ascertained by assay & the  
 ordinary title of the coin  
 described in the assayer's  
 report as presented to me,  
 assay is always made to  
 correct or confirm the re-  
 -sult. But the description  
 is never altered; I note the  
 fact & report it to the su-  
 -perintendent.

In the case of the Hib-  
 -ner deposit after repeated  
 assays of the portions des-  
 -cribed as French crown I  
 communicated it on an

June 26<sup>th</sup>

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early occasion to the Superintendent. I reported it shortly afterwards. I felt under no obligation to make an immediate report because the deficiency might be accounted for by the mixture of counterfeit coins & because a greater discrepancy often exists in deposits of hammered and Mexican Dollars owing to their being counterfeits of that denomination.

I generally keep the remnants of assay pieces till they are called for; if they accumulated too much I would transfer them to the Treasurer's Vault; but this has never occurred & the assay pieces remain sometimes for weeks in my office.

Quest. Was there any attempt made to identify by means of assay pieces remaining in your office the bar stated to have been produced by Mr. Masferrer numbered 111 and

J. W. Hunt

June 26.

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countermarked 2 in order  
to ascertain, if possible,  
whether this identical  
bar belonged to the Dick-  
ner or Casas deposit, or  
any other?

Ans. There was, but the  
piece did not correspond;  
the bar however showed  
that an assay piece had been  
cut off. — Assay pieces  
after having been taken  
from the assay are always  
rolled out and change their  
form. — In this instance  
Mr. Bradford purchased in  
the box a portion of bullion  
which had been cut off but  
never rolled out, which he,  
Bradford, thought might  
have cut from the deposit  
No. 100 & had omitted to  
assay it; that this piece  
being taken down to the  
weighing room & applied  
to bar No. 100 was found  
not to correspond; told Mr.  
Bradford when he first  
discovered it that it thought  
that it was a piece I had  
cut off some days before

Dr. West.

Dr. Hunt

June 26<sup>th</sup> 18  
 from some other de-  
 posit to report my assay,  
 but had found that it  
 did not want it.

Being asked why he  
 believed that the French  
 crowns of the Tichnor's  
 deposits were not assayed  
 Ans. Because since the  
 time of that deposit I  
 have not met with a  
 title of French crowns in  
 any deposits of coins; be-  
 cause I have never heard  
 of any counterfeit of  
 French crowns; because  
 the standard of French  
 crowns is uniform in  
 all the Mints; & because  
 the depositor was the Porter  
 of the Merchants Bank  
 pronounced to be the best  
 judge of coins in this  
 City.

It appears to me that  
 a portion of the Tichnor  
 deposits has disappeared  
 as well as the Cairns de-  
 posits, but that other  
 bullion has taken its  
 place.

In Hand

June 26<sup>th</sup>

A

I am decidedly of opinion that it is possible for the Cases deposite to have disappeared without any imputation upon the honesty of the Meltin & Refiner & of the Weigher.

Thus, for instance, a bar of Bullion might be secreted & carried off by depositors from the weighing room; there are sometimes strange looking people calling to make deposits.

I have seen repeated cases of irregularity in the marking of the bars of Bullion on deposit & otherwise when sent in for assay, and have frequently been embarrassed thereby. I have complained of the same to the Superintendent & he has gone with me to the weighing room & has been witness of the facts. I consider the Meltin & Refiner's department as the source from which these irregularities arise.

Dr. Hunt.

 June 26<sup>th</sup>

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Quest. State consecutively  
 your opinion of the com-  
 petency of the following  
 officers: the Superintendent  
 - the Treasurer - The  
 Treasurers Clerk - The Master  
 & Receiver - & the Carrier.  
 Ans. I believe Mr. Read-  
 ford fully competent to dis-  
 charge the duties of his of-  
 fice but that he has a fault,  
 he is too confiding, too  
 generous & too indulging.

I believe Mr. Forstall  
 to be a man of truth hon-  
 esty & integrity, but de-  
 pendent on his Clerk for  
 the details of his office;  
 he is very attentive to the  
 business of his office while  
 there, & manifests con-  
 siderable zeal & anxiety that  
 the business should be prop-  
 erly conducted.

I believe the Treasurers  
 Clerk, Mr. Drimby, to be  
 competent to perform all  
 the duties of his office; that  
 he is a man of strict truth  
 and sound integrity.

I believe the Master

June 26<sup>th</sup>

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& Refused to be a false & dishonest man & that he is incompetent to discharge the duties of his office.

I believe the Carrier to be fully competent to discharge the duties of his office.

Examination by  
W<sup>t</sup> Bradford.

I never <sup>have</sup> seen a man more zealous & diligent in the performance of the duties of his office than the Superintendent.

Have Examined by  
W<sup>t</sup> Mayhew.

Have you attended every meeting during this investigation?

Ans. I have been present at every meeting & though not always in the room have been generally within hearing & consider I have sufficiently attended to the proceedings to understand the testimony.

The title of Hammond Dollars varies very much, say from about 850 to 890. At no time did I ever send

Dr. H. W. H.

G. H. Ford

June 26<sup>th</sup>  
 back an assay piece by Mr  
 Bradford in reference to the  
 Casks affair; Mr Bradford  
 took an assay piece as I  
 stated above. Mr. Bradford  
 seeing it in the box in my  
 room took it, stating he  
 was anxious to compare  
 it. Assay pieces have no  
 mark put on them when  
 sent to me for assay; but each  
 piece is put into a numbered  
 hole in a board destined  
 for that purpose and is sent  
 up to me.

Quest. Suppose the assay piece  
 taken back as aforesaid, was  
 by mistake the assay piece of  
 the French crowns, and you  
 assayed the two pieces taken from  
 the two bars of hammered dollars  
 of Tichnor, might not one of  
 them have been inadvertently  
 taken for an assay of the  
 French crowns, when in such  
 case no assay of the French  
 crowns could have been made?  
 Ans. I do not think such  
 a thing could have happened  
 under the circumstances. I sub-  
 sequently recollect the individual

June 26<sup>th</sup>

despatch from which that  
piece was taken, which  
occurred several days prior  
to 18<sup>th</sup> April 1839. I cannot  
now specify the despatch, but  
remembered it heretofore.

Being asked whether he  
ever wrote such a letter &  
opinion to Mr. Bradford as  
is quoted in Mr. Maywell's let-  
ter to Dr. Patterson dated  
April the 27<sup>th</sup> 1839.

Answers. ~~That~~ I cannot recol-  
lect the exact phraseology  
of the letter and have no copy  
of it whereby to test the accu-  
racy of this quotation.

Quest. Did you ever entertain  
the opinions expressed in the  
quotation cited & ascribed to  
you in Mr. Maywell's said  
letter.

Ans. I did as explained in a  
post-script dated June 10<sup>th</sup>  
1839 appended by me to a docu-  
ment now in file.

Being asked if he, Dr. Hunt,  
did not withdraw his first  
letter to Mr. Bradford in re-  
lation to the Cases' affair.

Ans. No.

Dr. Hunt.

June 26<sup>th</sup>

19

Quest. Did Mr. Bradford  
 apply to you for a copy of  
 said last mentioned letter?  
 Ans. I believe he did and I  
 furnished a copy as near the  
 original as I could make it  
 from a rough draft; & I did  
 not design by alter or correct  
 any substance therein. I am  
 not aware that there was  
 an excess of gold in a deposit  
 by Ligard in July last above  
 what said depositors were paid  
 & I have no recollection of having  
 made report of any such oc-  
 -currence.

I recollect, now, that there  
 was a transaction about gold  
 similar to that just referred  
 to; but there was so much  
 falsehood about the matter  
 that I disavowed it from my  
 inside; I never would admit  
 that the bullion was identifi-  
 -fied. I think I made a re-  
 -port on such a subject in  
 June 1838. I have a memo-  
 -randum on a loose piece of paper  
 of having assayed two bars of  
 512.53 of Ligard's deposit which  
 was of 6 bars 142.51, 52.53, 53.64

G. W. M.

June 26<sup>th</sup>

20.

The first assay was assayed  
presume on the 1<sup>st</sup> of April  
1838 & the re-assay sometimes  
in June ensuing.

Ques. Did not Mr. Bradford  
about that time give you  
pieces of gold to assay with-  
out telling you how far from  
what bars they were taken?  
Ans. I have no distinct re-  
collection of such a witness-  
-stand.

I have never reported an  
average of mints without  
assaying each particular  
mint.

It has sometimes happened  
& on two occasions at this Mint  
that as many as 20 mints  
have given the same title

Dr. H. S.

June 26<sup>th</sup>

Peter W. Lebach sworn  
Examiners by Mr. Liddell

I am employed now as  
Mitter in the Mitter & Refiner's  
Office & have been thus em-  
ployed since March 1838.

I do not recollect any  
Mexican Dollars numbered  
No 100 going from the weigh-  
er's to the Mitter & Refiner's  
Office.

I am in the habit of  
most generally carrying  
the bullion from the weigh-  
er's Office to that of the  
Mitter & Refiner's.

I have not a good mem-  
ory as to dates.

I am in the habit of  
noticing the numbers of  
the deposits that go into  
the Mitter & Refiner's Office.

I did not carry in April  
last to the Mitter & Refiner's  
Office a deposit of \$200 Mex-  
ican dollars under the No 100

I feel very confident  
that I did not receive from  
Mr. Duran in April last a  
pan containing a deposit  
of 200 Mexican Dollars and

W. Lebach

Mr. Seabrook

June 26<sup>th</sup> 2  
 numbered too.

Mr. Maywell generally gets to the office at about 8 o'clock in the morning to distribute the Bullion; he has no regular hours to be there, is there sometimes very late, as late as 10 am until about 6 or 7 o'clock in the afternoon. When the workmen are employed in putting Bullion, I attend earlier in the morning to give them the bullion.

I am generally the one who stamps the number of the deposite on the bars.

There has been some irregularity in numbering - sometimes three or four numbers are shipped.

The Treasurer's weigher has been in the habit of reserving Mexican coin for a full melt & I suppose that the numbers reserved to be the place of those that are passed over. I always get the numbers from the weigher most generally on paper.

When there are several

Mr. Humphreys  
Mr. Grady

June 26<sup>th</sup> 3

deposits I remember the  
one in the mould before tak-  
ing any other out of the pot.  
I do not think that I have  
ever made any mistake in  
remembering. I am sure  
that I do not. I take the  
number from the register

I have never seen any-  
thing suspicious as regards  
the honesty of Mr. Maywell  
in his office

The conduct of Mr. May-  
well towards his workmen  
is changeable, he is sometimes  
rather cross & at others in  
pretty good humour.

I do not see how the  
interest & prosperity of the  
Mint could be promoted by  
the removal of Mr. Maywell.

On behalf of Mr.  
Bradford.

I think the day I  
received the Tichnor deposits  
there were one or more <sup>other</sup> deposits  
received by me I recollect  
that the character of the Tich-  
nor deposits was in hundred  
dollars & French Crowns.  
I think the character of the

June 28<sup>th</sup>

4

Three bullion received by me  
on the same day was 2 of  
Russian Dollars & that it was  
returned on the same day.

I think the Tichner de-  
posit was numbered 99-192

The Tichner deposit was  
melted in two separate por-  
tions by order of the War Dept  
to keep distinct the Russian  
dollars from the French crowns  
& were therefore marked one  
192. The number 99 was  
stamped 99 192 by me when  
I first melted it & re-  
turned it for assay. That  
numbering embraced the whole  
of the deposit. I am sure on  
this subject.

There were no other de-  
posits melted on that day for  
assay. There is no doubt at  
present on my mind that  
there were no other deposits  
melted.

The Tichner deposit 192  
was returned in 3 bars. All  
three were numbered 99, two  
of these were stamped with the  
assay marks 1 & the other 2.  
The three bars were returned.

Mr. Leach

Mr. S. L. Lusk

June 26<sup>th</sup> 5  
the same time for assay.

The amount of the same  
mould Dollars was 322<sup>3/4</sup>  
was not put in one bar the  
cause one mould would not  
contain them or even if it  
could contain them which he  
does not think it will, there  
is an excuse for dividing it.  
When the pot is taken out  
of the furnace, when the silver  
is melted it has to be poured  
out very fast, & when the  
mould is very full & poured  
out very fast it is apt to splash  
over & is divided to avoid  
making grains.

There are in the bar com-  
permarked 2-110 of 2 were  
returned in a separate bar  
from the others. The three  
bars were returned at the same  
time I returned them my assy.  
on the day they were melted;  
which is the same on which  
they were received.

Quest. Do you melt over  
having received from the mint  
- or a deposit accompanied by  
the \$100 for the purpose of  
melting for assay?

June 26<sup>th</sup>

Ans. No I do not recollect ever having received a deposit with number 100 with it before it was melted. One of the bars of No 99 & counter-matched No 2 was altered to 100 after being returned to the weighing room by the request of the weigher. The alteration was made by me.

I cannot recollect whether the alteration in the number was made on the same day or the next after returning it. I think that it was made on the next day but I am not certain.

Ques. Do you recollect receiving a deposit numbered 100 & the description of it?

Ans. I do not recollect having received a deposit with that number.

To my knowledge I do not recollect ever having received a deposit weighing more than 322  $\frac{3}{4}$  lbs in one bar. I never have weighed any. I have said before that I do not believe the mould will hold 322  $\frac{3}{4}$  lbs of the same

W. L. L. L.

Mr. Seabuck

June 26<sup>th</sup> 7.  
 standard as what the Technor  
 nor deposite is. I believe  
 the mould will hold over  
 that amount in fine silver  
 I always stamp the  
 No. on the bars that are sent  
 out to me from the weigh-  
 ing room. I have & never  
 been mistaken in thus num-  
 bering the bars, & have never  
 altered the numbering at the  
 suggestion of the Wright Club  
 because I had made a mis-  
 take.

On a hammered dollar  
 being exhibited to the wit-  
 nesses his being asked what  
 he did not recollect that  
 at the time of the Technor  
 deposite was melted a ham-  
 mered dollar was found in  
 the pot & whether the dollar  
 exhibited to him is not that  
 dollar.

Ans. I recollect the circum-  
 stance of the dollar being  
 found & think the dollar  
 exhibited is the same it is  
 burnt & they all look alike.  
 I did not intend to say "at  
 the time of the Technor deposite"

June 26<sup>th</sup> E.

I do not exactly recollect the time.

My wages in the Butler & Sullivan's department previous to the Quarell with Mr. Dunsby were \$2.75 per day. My wages have been increased since that time owing to a means living whose place I took & performed more laborious work. My wages now are \$3.25. My wages were not increased until the man left that I heard of & did not know it until the 1<sup>st</sup> of this month - I am allowed for overwork - I was allowed I think six days during the month of May. I think about 4 days. I cannot say with any certainty.

At one time I had some little difficulty with Mr. Hoofwell, that is I thought Mr. Hoofwell treated me rather coolly. This was sometime in the winter of this year.

I have stated to other people that Mr. Hoofwell was a man who in my opinion would not acknowledge a mistake even if he knew he had made one.

Mr. Sealbach

June 26<sup>th</sup> 8.

I have stated this  
opinion of Mr. Maywell  
since the difficulty with  
Mr. Vinty occurred.

Examined on behalf  
of Mr. Maywell

Mr. Maywell did not  
give me any order about put-  
ting the Testner Defiance of  
hammered dollars in one or  
two moulds.

Mr. Maywell never in-  
ter-mixed with my sum-  
bering, but he has charged  
me to be very particular  
about committing mistakes,  
I to number according to the  
number given by the weights.

I recollect that a depo-  
site of Gold was melted, I did  
not then know the name of  
the depositor, but I have  
since heard that it was Fitch,  
the bar was cracked in stamp-  
ing, was brought back &  
obviously the weight three or  
four pennyweights. It was  
afterwards remelted on account  
of being cracked & I  
used a fling to toughen it,  
the fling would cause it to be

Mr. Seabright

June 26<sup>th</sup> 10  
 less, there is one that would  
 purchase it.

On behalf of W.  
 Bradford

A bar of silver N<sup>o</sup> 170  
 weighing 533<sup>grs</sup> was exhibi-  
 ted & the witness asked if  
 it had been run in one mould  
 to which he answered that  
 it had been run in ones  
 mould that it had run over.

W. Leach

157

18.

Jan 26<sup>th</sup> 1839.

Wm Humphreys was sworn  
Examined by Mr. Stidell

I have been employed  
in the Mint since the 12<sup>th</sup>  
of February 1838 & have worked  
in different portions of Mr.  
Maywell's department. I am  
now engaged in assisting the  
Mint. I have had frequent  
difficulties with Mr. Maywell.  
There is at this time a cool-  
ness on the part of Mr. Maywell  
towards me & none on my  
part towards Mr. Maywell.  
I do not know the reason of  
this coolness. I respect the  
conduct of Mr. Maywell  
has been dishonest, he has  
deceived me. He has deceived  
me in not fulfilling the prom-  
ises he made me by letter that  
induced me to come from  
New York; having promised  
to use his influence with the  
officers of the Mint to obtain  
for me satisfactory wages,  
which he has not done. Mr.  
Maywell without sufficient  
cause dismissed my son from  
the Mint.

Wm Humphreys

Mr. Humphreys

June 26<sup>th</sup>

2  
 I write in behalf of  
 Mr. Maywell.

Yesterday Mr. Bradford for an increase of wages. Mr. Bradford promised to allow it, if Mr. Maywell would recommend it. Mr. Maywell said that he was to have \$3 & Mr. <sup>Leahy</sup> \$3.25. This I thought dishonest & that Mr. Leahy was not entitled to any more than I was. Mr. Maywell afterwards allowed me the required wages through the intercession of Mr. Bradford.

By Mr. Shidell.

The conduct of Mr. Maywell is capricious & captrious sometimes treating the man in a friendly manner & sometimes he is unreasonable.

Mr. Maywell has spoken to me in a derogatory manner of all the other Officers of the Mint.

I never saw in the Mint & Refiners department anything that looked upon as suspicious as related to him.

I consider Mr. Maywell as diligent at his business

June 26<sup>th</sup>

3

I have no other grounds of complaint against Mr. Maywell than on the subject of my wages, his unjust conduct, his missest of my son & ~~also~~ abusing him for not doing work which in fact there was none to be done.

As relates to the administration of this business of his office I look upon Mr. Maywell as being honest & have never seen or even conjectured anything that could make me think differently.

I consider him, Mr. Maywell, somewhat deficient in competency as far as my knowledge goes.

I do not know that there has been any communication between Mr. Maywell & Mr. Tyler to inquire the other officers of the Mint, except that Mr. Maywell told me that he, Mr. Maywell & Mr. Tyler, had taken two pieces from the same ingot to Dr. Hart to be assayed & I believe that Mr. Maywell told me that the assays varied.

Mr. Humphreys

Mr. Humphreys

June 28<sup>th</sup>

4

Mr. Maywell seemed to consider the Southern Clerks in the Mint as being desperate men, & that he calculated to resign in consequence of some difficulty with one of them. Mr. Maywell said that he did not like the Clerks employed here, I think he said Southern Clerks.

Quest. Do you think that the interests & prosperity of the Mint would be promoted by Mr. Maywell's removal?

Ans. I do ~~not~~ think so for the reasons before stated & because according to my judgment Mr. Maywell is incompetent.

I think him incompetent to manage the separating process from a remark that I heard him make to Mr. Spafford 2 months ago. The remark was that Mr. Spafford asked him if he had any particular proportions or quantities of zinc to put in to reduce silver. Mr. Maywell said that he always

Mr. Humphreys

June 26<sup>th</sup> 5  
 put in an excess of quick that  
 the quick would be taken out  
 in the Refiner's room. I have  
 heard the matter complain  
 that there was quick here the  
 silver as it came from the  
 separating room. If the silver  
 is properly recovered there should  
 not be an excess of quick. ~~Other~~  
 other reasons are that I have  
 been working for the last  
 5 or 10 days in the melting  
 room, there have been a num-  
 ber of mists run out because  
 they were not properly alloyed.  
 I enquired of the Refiner if  
 such things happened long  
 back, & he said that they some-  
 times occurred.

By M. Bradford  
 I do not recollect that I ever  
 having heard Mr. May well  
 express dislike to the French  
 Chicks or French population  
 of the South.

June 26<sup>th</sup> 1839.

1.

Witness C. Brummond sworn  
Examined by Mr. Nicoll

I have been door keeper  
of the Mint for about 2 months  
and a half. When Casas first  
came to make his deposit I  
was at the door of the Mint.  
Casas said he came for small  
change. I took into the Treas-  
urer's office. About 2 or 3 days  
after I saw Casas come with  
a receipt. Casas was alone,  
a few minutes after say 5 or  
10 minutes Casas came out of  
the Treasurer's office with  
a mint certificate in his hand.  
He asked me in Spanish what  
does this paper "that is the cer-  
tificate" mean. I replied  
"You can on this certificate  
receive the money in any  
bank or house." I described  
or explained to Casas in Span-  
ish what was the meaning  
of the Mint Certificate & told  
him the amount was \$212.  
Casas then asked me if he  
could go into the Mint to look  
at the operations. I took him  
to the door & showed him the  
coining room.

W. C. Brummond

June 4th

2

Casas presently after was called to the Treasurer's office to receive his money. I saw Mr. Ducoin bring some money packed in rolls to Mr. Dimitry which was put on the table; when I passed the door of the Treasurer's Casas was putting the money in his pocket handkerchief; he presently came out & went away.

I am certain that I told Casas that the certificate was for \$212. I am certain that I could not have told Casas either a greater or less sum than \$212.

Mr. Ducoin showed me a memorandum about 2 weeks ago, it might be less or more than that the memorandum I am sure was for \$212 I am perfectly certain that the memorandum was for neither more nor less than \$212.

The occasion of Ducoin showing me this memorandum was a conversation about the Casas business.

W. Ducoin

Mr. Dismore

June 26<sup>th</sup>

3

Ducrain was talking about the dispute between Mr. Dismore & Mr. Maywell. Ducrain said that Maywell & Dismore had ~~had~~ a dispute & that Maywell had told Dismore that he, Dismore, had committed a fraud about this money - that Mr. Bradford had come between them, Dismore & Maywell, & separated or stopped them. Ducrain told me he was sure that the money had been weighed & counted by him, Ducrain, & also that the Ducrain went to Mr. Lebie to come & take the money & that Lebie came in a few minutes & took away the pan & that the pan contained \$212 with a number in it. Ducrain told me that the money number put in the pan was 100. I am sure Ducrain told me that the money put in the pan was \$212. Ducrain did not tell me whether in his opinion the money came back from the lotter's office or not. I think that Ducrain told me that

June 26<sup>th</sup> 4

Mr. Bradford went into the Treasurer's office & looked at the weighing book & told Mr. Dimetree that he, Maywell, had never received such a number.

Examined on behalf of Mr. Bradford.

Mr. Dimetree was not usually in the habit of counting money. When persons not understanding English came into the office the certificate was always translated by me to them. The certificate that Casas asked me to translate was not in the book but was a loose one that had been cut out of the book.

I was born in Philadelphia & speak English, French & Spanish.

Examined on behalf of Mr. Maywell.

The last conversation that I had with Mr. Ducoin in relation to the Casas deposit was about five days ago. I did not see the memorandum by Ducoin at the last conversation. I have not seen

W. B. Brewster

W. J. Guinard

June 26<sup>th</sup> 5  
 it, since it was first  
 shown to me about 2  
 weeks ago. I never have  
 had any conversation with  
 Gervin on the subject of the  
 Memorandum. Mr. Gervin  
 was absent about 5 or 6 days  
 at the period of his marriage.  
 Quest. Was he absent before  
 or after his marriage?  
 Ans. Before he was married.  
 Quest. Was he absent any  
 number of days immediately  
 after his marriage?  
 Ans. I do not recollect.

# RG104 Entry 24B

June 27, 1839

Abstract of Testimony  
by  
James Maxwell, Melter & Refiner

(60)

June 27<sup>th</sup> 1839  
Met agreeably to adjournment.

Same persons present

By experiments made in weighing it was ascertained that the mould could contain more <sup>than</sup> the 322<sup>grs</sup> & was high as 330<sup>grs</sup> & that out of three full bars returned today 2 that were of Mexican dollars overran that weight & the third of the same coin was short.

Mr. Maywell sworn & examined by Mr. Shille.

The deposits from the Melters office are usually brought by Mr. Leitch.

On the morning of the 16<sup>th</sup> of April in passing thro' the Melling room I observed the French Crowns & hammered dollars on the stand in the Melling room; and was informed at the same time from the Treasurer's office Mexican dollars had been sent out. I directed the Melter not to melt them that he would go to the Treasurer's office, & did so & I think that it was

Mr. Maywell

June 27<sup>th</sup>

Mr. Dimick that Sepher 2<sup>o</sup> to.

A few days previous to the 11<sup>th</sup> I had suggested to Mr. Bradford that it would be much better that the Treasurer should retain the Mexican coin & suggested that he would consult with the assayer.

On or about the 16<sup>th</sup> Mr. Bradford said that the doing so met with the views of Dr. Hort. & consequently I told the latter that there would be no more small deposits of Mexican coins melted.

It is the usage of the U. S. Mint at Philadelphia to retain the small deposits of Mexican Dollars till they accumulated & formed a large amount. I did not propose to Mr. Bradford to reserve the small deposits of Mexican coins for the purpose of averaging them after they were melted but that they should be reported on immediately, as at the principal Mint.

Mr. Mayhew

Mr. Mayhew

June 24<sup>th</sup>

3

The Treasury deposit consisted of 2 matts or of hammered dollars & the other of French crowns.

The hammered dollars were matted in 2 bars & numbered 99 & both countermarked N<sup>o</sup> 1.

And the French crowns N<sup>o</sup> 99, and countermarked N<sup>o</sup> 2.

They were returned on the same day to the Treasury Office as I believe such being the usage I believe that it was on the following morning that they were brought out by the neighbor for the purpose of taking off the piece for assay. It may have been for the purpose of weighing I cannot say positively. They were on the counter.

I suggested to Mr. Ingham that it would be better to continue the numbers by matts & do away with numbering each deposit, as done at the principal mint.

Mr. Maywell.

June 24<sup>th</sup>

That is to say if one  
deposit reduced or required  
several melts not to put  
the number of deposit on  
all the melts but to go on  
numbering the melts of the  
same deposit consecutively  
in other words that the bars  
should be numbered according  
to the melts in the Melters  
Office; & not by the number  
of the Deposit in the weigh-  
ing book - understanding  
however that the numbers  
whereby the melts should be  
designated, should be received  
from the Weighers Office.

My principal reason  
for this course was that  
I thought it would prevent  
a confusion that had been  
taken place <sup>some</sup> days before  
Mr. Derrity agreed to it.  
Mr. Derrity sent for Mr.  
Lebie and No. 2 of 99 was  
changed to 100; but it appeared  
afterwards that the counter mark  
on the three Lebie bars had  
not been erased. The reasons  
why the number on number  
of the bars 99 - 1 was altered

W. H. Maynard

June 24<sup>th</sup> 5  
was that the bars both of  
which were marked 99-1 were  
of the same melt.

The first I saw of these  
Tichnor bars after the Run-  
bars were altered was on the  
22<sup>d</sup> of April to I believe.  
When the deposits were  
brought out in the weigh  
room after I had made my  
entries in my book entitled  
"Silver - Melted & Refiner's  
Office" from the weighing  
book & assayer's report (I  
usually take the gross weight  
from the weighing book &  
the quality & standard from  
the assayer's reports) I then  
received the Tichnor deposits.

I think the Tichnor  
deposits was in the weigh  
room when I made the en-  
tries in my book.

Ques. Do you <sup>not</sup> consider it an  
unsafe practice to make the  
entries in your book before  
you have actually inspected  
inspected the deposits which  
you are about to receive.

Ans. I think not. It has  
usually been my practice

W. Mayfield

June 27th

Is it the practice with the Melted & Refiner in Philadelphia.

Quest. Did you ever to your knowledge receive either before or after assay the deposits of Dominican Casas?

Ans. No.

Quest. Why were the entries of the subscriber named gross weight, fineness & standard weight of the Casas deposits entered in your said book?

Ans. I copied these entries from the weighing book & assayers report before examining the parcels of Bullion received at that time.

Quest. Why were the figures 182,48 entered in the said book & indicating the standard weight of said deposits entered by you by drawing pencil lines over the same?

Ans. Because I had not received it & in casting up the column it was necessary to erase them for the convenience of casting up

Mr. Aspinwall.

June 27th

Quest. Will you tell me whether you make after copying from the weighing book any subsequent entry to indicate what you have received & what you have not received of the deposits thus copied?

Ans. In the case of the Stephens and Lacroix deposits I made the entry of null, as appears by the extract from my book filed in the proceedings of this investigation. I believe on the day I made the entries of Cabas deposits I entered opposite thereto in pencil the words "not received," such deposits appearing there but that the pencil crossings over the standard might be thereof were not made until afterwards. The Stephens, Lacroix & Cabas deposits were the only ones entered in my book, which turned out afterwards not to have been received.

Quest. Do you consider this book for the purposes of

Mr. Maynard

June 27<sup>th</sup>

8

Your own accounts & record book?

Ans. I do.

Quest. Do you consider it a record book subject to the inspection of, & a book of comparison with the Treasurers Office.

Ans. I do.

Quest. Do you not consider it unsafe & irregular to trust to pencil marks so important as the mere receipt of the deposits therein copied in Ink?

Ans. I would think it was. But under the circumstances I suspected that the difficulty would have been adjusted & after I found they had not been settled I did not think it proper to make any change in my books.

Quest. State if you have full & entire confidence in the honesty of the men employed in your office on the 16<sup>th</sup> of April so as to have no doubt of the non-receipt of this billion of Cases before today in your

Mr. Maynard

June 27<sup>th</sup>  
 Office.  
 Sir, I have the fullest confidence in the Mint. From what the Master, Mr. Leitch has stated I believe that it has never been brought to my office. Bullion has sometimes been brought to the Mint's office by other persons than the Master. The communication between the receiver's & Master's office is not kept locked. There was a time when my doors were occasionally kept locked but by Mr. Bradford's order they have been left open during business hours. My reasons for keeping my doors closed were that there was a great deal of irregularity in the Mint & persons of doubtful character, I should judge from appearance, were allowed to enter the Mint at all hours of the day; which has given me a great deal of anxiety & interfered with my operations. I don't say that. Would not the danger of mistakes & confusion be given the different departments

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have been obviated by the requisition of actual written receipts simultaneous with each transfer of Bullion? Ans. I think that it would; but, I have never known that practice to have been adopted either here or at Philadelphia, to my knowledge.

The warrants signed by the Superintendent have not been regularly issued to me to wit: those connected with my department. — I have very often applied for them — I have often spoken to Mr. Bradford to Mr. Postall & very often to Mr. Denney. They were always procured when I applied to the Treasurer & Mr. Denney.

Some time since to wit: since the Cases difficulty, I made a written application to the Treasurer & received a reply in writing (to be filed) that the warrants about which I have written were ready for my signature. In a few days afterwards

W. S. Maynard

Mr. Maynard

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I called to begin the gold warrants, as the gold accounts corresponded & was told they were not ready; Mr. Forstall enquired of Mr. Dimistry & Mr. Dimistry said they were not ready. I do not remember if any reason was assigned for their not being ready. I had settled the whole of my gold account a few days previous.

Quest. Have the instructions of the Director respecting the issuing of warrants for obnoxious bullion been ever regularly observed in this establishment?

Ans. So far as I am concerned they have not.

Quest. Have you furnished monthly the accounts contemplated in said instructions in relation to warrants, & if you have not, state why you have not.

Ans. I have not been in the habit of presenting monthly my own accounts to the Treasurer. It was not the practice at the Mint in

Mr. Mayhew

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Philadelphia for the Auditor  
& Refiner to do so; but it  
was the practice there for  
the Auditor & Refiner to set  
up his account & compare  
it with an account furnished  
by the Treasurer. I have not  
set up my account month-  
ly but have time after time  
brought upon the Treasurer &  
his Clerk the settlement of  
accounts. I have frequently  
pointed out to Mr. Forstall  
the necessity of having these  
warrants & he would appear  
for the moment to feel the  
importance of it but it  
would pass away & did not  
have the desired effect.

Quest. Do you know whether  
the bullion transactions  
of this Mint have been regu-  
larly journalized by the  
Treasurer's clerk at the end  
of each month.

Ans. I believe they have not.  
The difficulties in the settle-  
ment of the accounts have not  
proceeded from ~~him~~ him

Quest. Has your account with the  
Treasurer been closed & balanced

Mr. Maynard

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 on the last days of March,  
 June, September & December  
 & if it has not state whig  
 Ans. It has not. & I do not  
 believe that ~~he~~ applied for  
 a settlement at those par-  
 ticular periods, & I did not  
 do so on account of the diffi-  
 culty of getting a settlement  
 I have always been ready on  
 my part with materials for  
 a settlement by having all  
 the necessary entries on my  
 book. It has not been my  
 habit however to fast up  
 my book quarterly; I be-  
 lieve that the entries on my  
 book have always been ready  
 for fasting up at those periods.  
 I have never been furnished  
 by the Superintendent or Treas-  
 urer with a copy of the in-  
 structions from the Director,  
 but I have had and believe  
 always could have access to  
 them.

My book is kept pre-  
 cisely on the system observed  
 in Philadelphia. I believe  
 my books were ordered by the  
 Auditor & Refiner at Philadelphia

Mr. Mayfield

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 is prepared according to his plan. The books I allude to are the 2 apt books of Gold & Silver bullion; & I have also 2 calculation books for Gold & Silver mints.  
 Here, upon called by Mr. Bradford, the memoranda books aforesaid were produced.

On inspection of the Memorandum book of Silver by the Commissioner it appears that in said book under date of May 1<sup>st</sup> 1839 there is a record of bars 99-1 & 99-2 being the Tichnor deposits as melted together with other deposits in a melt of 1811.46 oz. - But on the Silver Account Book of Mr. Mayfield there is opposite the entry of Tichnor's deposits an entry as follows. "April 22<sup>d</sup> Melted into Buzots" whereupon the Commissioner called upon Mr. Mayfield to explain this discrepancy between admissions in said Account Book & said Memorandum book to wit the statement in the

June 27<sup>th</sup> 15  
 former that the Tichenor  
 Deposit 99-1 & 99-2 was  
 melted into ingots April 22<sup>d</sup>  
 and the statement in the  
 latter that bars No 99-1 &  
 99-2 - were melted on 6<sup>th</sup> May  
 1839.

(Explanation in writing  
 given by Mr. Mayhew)

At the time the Tichenor  
 deposit was received I noted  
 it as melted into ingots before  
 I had discovered that the same  
 deposit was missing on  
 which I reserved it until  
 the 6<sup>th</sup> of May when it was  
 made into a part for ingots  
 as appears on my memorandum  
 book of that date. The  
 entry was not corrected in  
 my ap book because I con-  
 sidered it improper to make  
 any changes after I had called  
 for an investigation.

Being asked what de-  
 posit is designated by the  
 N<sup>o</sup> 100 stated in said mem-  
 orandum book as melted  
 with the bars 99-1 & 99-2  
 on said 6<sup>th</sup> of May 1839,  
 Answers. Mr. Dumbley had

Mr. Mayhew

Mr. Maynard

June 27<sup>th</sup>

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numbered some bars with paper before sending them to my office for mulling into tickets, thus changing some or perhaps all of the N<sup>os</sup> stamped on the said bars. They came to my office for mulling into tickets with three papers changing the numbers originally stamped upon them. I suppose said separate entries as N<sup>o</sup> 100 in the minor and cum book was B. Piffety. I feel confident that the stamped number of Piffety was not 100 but such was the number put on the paper upon the bar, made to correspond with the same entries upon the weighing book. I had no other motive for not correcting the entry of date of mulling into tickets in my account book than that above assigned; that a difficulty had occurred & having demanded an investigation, I deemed it improper to make a change.

I do not know whether under ordinary circumstances

Mr. Maypole

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I would have made the cor-  
rections.

Being asked if he has  
ever made a diligent search  
in his vault & department  
to satisfy himself that the  
Casas Depository is not there.  
Answers. I have not made  
such a diligent search, not  
deeming it necessary because  
I had a knowledge of all that  
is in my vault & department  
& know it is not there.

Being asked to specify  
if he can, the various deposits  
which composed the melt  
of 1811.46oz recited in the  
memorandum book under  
date of 6<sup>th</sup> May 1819.

Ans. No 3 Bars from Refinery

No 99. 1 } Technor

2 }

No 101 A. L. Lolla

No 100 B. Piff. 11

No 102 D. H. Piff.

& Copper

Quert. Do you or do you not  
still continue the practice  
of Entering the date of melting  
into my books in your log before the  
melting is actually made?

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Ans. Yes

Quet. Does not this practice necessarily expose you to confusion & mistakes.

Ans. It may produce some confusion occasionally but not often.

Quet. In the event of your death would the officers of the Mint be enabled to ascertain from your books the true dates of the transactions therein recorded with regard to melting.

Ans. They might not, I think they would not, but there would be no difficulty in adjusting accounts if the numbers on the bars are correctly made.

My memoranda of melts on particular days would not make any difference in the settlement of my accounts with the Treasurers as I have to account for the amount of Standard Bullion delivered to me whether melted one day or another.

Examination in behalf of Mr. Bradford.

I think the 11<sup>th</sup> of April

Wm. Mayhew

June 27<sup>th</sup> 19  
 was the first day in which  
 I complained that Mr.  
 Bradford's order in relation  
 to the small deposits of  
 Mexican dollars had been dis-  
 obeyed.

Ques. I do not know of  
 whose deposits it was that  
 I complained of; I was  
 merely informed that they  
 were Mexican dollars. It was  
 Mr. Levick whom I directed  
 not to melt them. Levick  
 is my principal minter.  
 Ques. You have stated that  
 your object in receiving these  
 coins was not for the pur-  
 pose of averaging them after  
 they were melted, but that  
 they should be reported on,  
 as at the principal mint,  
 would not this practice  
 involve the necessity of the  
 assayer certifying to an  
 assay that he never assayed  
 and it might appear so, it  
 was the practice at the  
 principal mint.

Ans. Was it your object  
 in recommending this course  
 that the assayer should certify

W. H. Nagrell

Mr. Macfarlane

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to an assay that he has not  
actually made?

Ans. Such was not my  
object.

Quest. By the words "that they  
should be reported on" in your  
testimony, do you mean  
by the assayer?

Ans. Yes.

Quest. Could they be fairly  
reported on by the assayer with-  
out being first melted?

Ans. I believe they could.

Quest. In what way?

Ans. It is well known that  
the quality of the Mexican  
coin is about 896. I have  
assayed the deposits of Mex-  
ican dollars at the Philadel-  
phia Mint for one or two years  
the gain is about  $\frac{1}{4}$  of 1 pct.

They ~~very~~ seldom vary  
from that. It is the usage  
at the Mint at Philadelphia  
for the assayer to make the  
reports in that way. Witness  
Witness directed to look at an  
assayer's report exhibited  
to him & say whether the  
following words "To the Treas-  
urer of the Mint— I certify

Mr. Maynell

June 27<sup>th</sup>

What I have assayed or signed by the assayer, is the same kind the assayer in Philadelphia on the occasion above referred to.

Ans. It is the same.

Quest. You state you recommended a change in the mode of numbering, understanding the weighed to furnish you with the number of the melt instead of the number of the deposit. How the weigher could determine the number of melts that would be necessary to take place in the melting room afterwards?

Ans. The weigher could give the number of the first melt & it would be left to the melter to follow up the numbers afterwards that is the practice at the principal Mint.

Quest. Under that practice how could the Treasurers Clerk present the number <sup>of the deposit</sup> so as to fill up the assayer's report?

Ans. For instance the bars deposited by Ligasdi & Co on the 12<sup>th</sup> of April 1834 were all weighed separately but melted

Mr. Maynard

June 27<sup>th</sup>

promiscuously & the numbers continued as proposed.

Quest. Under that practice how could the Treasurer's Clerk present the number of the deposits so as to prepare the assayer's report?

Ans. I believe that the assayer's report is numbered but that each deposit is not numbered on the weighing book in Philadelphia.

Quest. From what source is the number on the assayer's report of the deposits derived?

Ans. I am unable to answer the question.

Quest. At the time that you recommended the change in the mode of numbering did you suggest to the weighing clerk or to any other person the manner in which confusion would be avoided by the change?

Ans. I thought I endeavored to point it out at the time. It is <sup>much</sup> more convenient for me. I believe it would avoid much difficulty if it was

Mr. Maynard

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practiced.

Quest. State to whom you pointed out the mode of avoiding confusion? to the

Ans. To Mr. Denio

Quest. What directions did you give him on the subject of avoiding confusion in the change of numbers?

Ans. To continue the numbers; I had proposed this frequently before and it had been followed.

Quest. How did you propose to continue them in order to avoid confusion in the Treasurer's office?

Ans. To continue a regular succession of numbers

Quest. Do you mean a regular succession of numbers of deposits, or regular successions of numbers of mltts.

Ans. Regular succession of mltts, the number for each mltt.

Quest. From what source would the register derive under that plan the regular succession of numbers?

Ans. He could always ascertain

Mr. Maymell

June 27<sup>th</sup>  
the first number of the last  
deposit from the previous  
one by which he could in-  
struct the meter.

Quest. How could he ascertain  
the remaining numbers of the  
meter?

Ans. I have stated before  
that would be left to the  
meter.

Quest. How then could he  
give the number of the next  
meter?

Ans. He could not give it  
until the deposit was  
melted.

Quest. From what source  
could the weigher derive  
his information to fix the  
next number after melting,  
accurately?

Ans. When the deposit  
is received can he parcel that  
it weighed may be numbered  
1, 2, 3, & continued, but  
that does not interfere with  
the numbering after melting.

Quest. In case you can dispose  
of the transportation of bullion  
then should contain several  
melts numbered as you pre-  
pared what number ought

June 27<sup>th</sup> 25.  
 Mr. Gayer's report to bear  
 out. I cannot answer the  
 Question.

Mr. Maynard

# RG104 Entry 24B

June 28, 1839

Abstract of Testimony  
by  
James Maxwell, Melter & Refiner

June 28<sup>th</sup> 1839. 26

Examination of Mr. Mayfield continued

On this day Mr. Mayfield, before the recommencement of his examination, expressed his desire to explain or explain in writing his answer to the last question propounded to him yesterday evening & this request being acceded to by the Commissioner, he furnished an answer thereto as follows:

Mr. Mayfield wishes to have entered on the minutes the following explanation of his testimony but he should not have succeeded in making himself distinctly understood.

He had been fully occupied all the week in conducting the melting & refining the voluminous papers & books in proof by day, & attending to this investigation by night, it having been one of the part one o'clock in the morning when this commission assembled the two preceding nights & he had been under examination twice last night nearly 7 hours when he found himself so much fatigued & oppressed

Mr. Mayfield

W. H. Mayhew

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with the extreme heat that he was unable to answer the following question:

Quest. "In case any one deposits should contain several mints of the same description of bullion numbers as you proposed what number ought the assayer's report to bear?"

"Cannot answer the question" where he should have said the assayer is in my opinion the proper person to answer this question, I however think his reports should be numbered in regular succession, filled up by the Clerk from the Register, but it is not my province to be his judge or dictator in this matter & although requested to give the other officers & clerks information which I have at all times cheerfully done to the best of my abilities. I was employed to conduct a particular department which I have done with fidelity & success & am not to be held answerable for the errors or irregularity of others?

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He further answers by way of illustration that the original numbers of Tichner's deposit were:

No. 99.1 two bars in the same melt of  
 " 99.1 hammered dollars  
 " 99.2 One bar being one melt of French crowns.

The supposition of these different qualities (the silver in French crowns & in hammered dollars being of different qualities) had been numbered 99 & 100 it would have superseded the necessity of the additional numbers 1 & 2 & simplified the business very much, therefore he suggested to the weigher that he had better pursue that course which the weigher did by ordering the Meltor to change the numbers by making No. 2 of 99 - No 100, omitting all the counter numbers which was so far complied with as to place 100 on the originally No 2 of 99 defacing the 99 but the defacing the counter marks 1 & 2

W. S. Maymott

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from the bars was unintentionally omitted.

When a deposit is too large for one melt the assayer assays 4 bars from each melt & the numbers of necessity go on in regular succession - the weigher could not furnish the number for a new deposit until he knew how many melts there had been in the previous deposit & this he may know as soon as the melt is over as the bars could be returned to him immediately thereafter.

W. W. Mayfield.

On behalf of W. W. Mayfield. If this suggestion were not practicable the weigher had only to disregard it - my duty was to conform to the numbers he furnished. Quert. You stated in your captioned answer that instead of answering as you did yesterday you should have said the assayer in your opinion is the proper person to answer this question to the proper person - Please state if at the principal Mint

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iii Philadelphia, it is the practice of the assayer to place the number on the certificate.

Ans. I believe not.

Quest. Why then do you consider it the duty of the assayer to know what number should be placed on the assayers report at the United States Mint?

Ans. He the assayer has had an opportunity of informing himself on this subject at the Mint in Philadelphia.

Quest. You state, also, in your oftended answer "that when a deposit is too large for one melt, the assayer assays one bar from each melt & the No. of assays go on in regular succession." Please state whether this is always the case?

Ans. It is optional with the assayer whether he assays more than 1 bar; that is the usual practice.

Quest. Have you not furnished him with more

W. H. Hoagland

Mr. Mayhew

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Now I bar of the same melt for the purpose of assay in the course of your operations. Ans. I have divided melts into 2 parts for the purpose of testing the correctness of the assay.

Quest. You state also under your proposed plan of numbering "that the weigher could not furnish the number for a new deposit until he knew how many melts there had been in the previous deposit." Would not this plan make the weigher dispendant on the Master & Refiner for the particular numbers to attach to his deposit?

Ans. I refer to the written statement made to day for the answer.

Quest. As that written statement consists of 4 pages please point out the particular part referred to?

Ans. The witness here dictated from the statement the following answer

Mr. Mayfield

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"The weigher could not furnish the number for a new deposit until he knew how many melts there had been in the previous deposit & this may be known as soon as melt is over; as the bars <sup>could</sup> be returned to him immediately thereafter."

Quest. Do you or do you not mean to say that the weigher is to ascertain the number of a subsequent deposit from the No. 1 stamp on the bars that are returned to him by the Melter & Refiner?

Ans. Yes.

Quest. Be so good as to state whether you brought a letter from D. J. Patterson to the Treasurer of this Branch Mint in which he was referred to yourself for information, stating in substance that you were familiar with all the detailed operations of the Mint?

Ans. I believe he did.

Quest. Please look upon the following instruction

Mr. Haywood

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 from the Director at Philadelphia  
 for the regulation of the  
 Branch Mint at N. O. viz  
 "From time to time, the  
 Treasurer by his weigher  
 delivers gold & silver bullion & clippings to the  
 Meltter & Refiner, both  
 of these officers make in-  
 trins of such deliveries in  
 small weigh books"  
 State whether this instruc-  
 tion, or a practice in con-  
 formity with it has been  
 observed & introduced into  
 this Branch Mint?  
 Ans. as far as I am con-  
 cerned I have made entries  
 of the receipts of clippings,  
 the delivery of ingots in  
 the small weigh book,  
 & the receipt of bullion in  
 my Silver & Gold Bullion  
 Books.

Here Mr. Haywood was  
 called upon by Mr. Bradford  
 to produce his small weigh  
 book & he, Mr. Haywood  
 produced a book  
 Examined by Mr.  
 Willard.

Mr. Maynard

June 28<sup>th</sup>

Quest. Were there any deliveries to you from the Treasurer of assayed gold or silver bullion or clippings for melting into ingots between the 11<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> April 1839 & if so why are not said deliveries recited in said book just produced?

Ans. There were such deliveries of silver bullion on the 16<sup>th</sup> of April; they were not recited in said book, because he found it more convenient to enter the several items in my silver bullion book, in which book they were entered on that day, it being always my practice to enter the bullion in that book & the clippings & ingots in the small weigh book.

Quest. What is the object of this distinction as to your mode of making entries?

Ans. The clippings can be & are carried by me to my bullion book in the

Mr. Maymull

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aggregate, but it is no use  
saying to have the several  
items of Bullion expressed  
in the Bullion book.

(Examined by Mr.  
Bradford)

Quest. Do you feel bound  
by the entries you make  
in the said small weigh  
book with regard to Silver  
pieces?

Ans. Yes.

Quest. Do you feel equally  
bound by the entries you  
make in the other book  
with regard to bullion?

Ans. On receiving the bullion  
I do feel equally bound.

Quest. Was that last book  
you mentioned the one in  
which the Cases deposits  
is entered?

Ans. Yes.

Quest. Please state whether  
your proposed plan of sum-  
bering the deposits did not  
necessarily derange the order  
of numbering previously as-  
signed by the weigher as  
entered in his weighing  
book?

Mr. Mosewell

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Ans. It would not derange any entry previous to the alteration - It was necessary to alter the entry of the No. of the Tichnor deposit.

Quest. Was it your object in your new mode of numbering to have the No. of Melts follow each other in regular consecutive order?

Ans. Yes, it was.

Quest. Was not the deposit No 96 the last melt previous to the Tichnor deposit?

Ans. It was the last melt, but the Nos. of the two following deposits could have been put in the pan with the said two following deposits.

Quest. Was the No. 96 stamped upon the bars of the deposit just spoken of, & was it the last No. returned stamped upon the bars?

Ans. Yes.

Quest. Was the Tichnor deposit the next sent out?

Ans. I suppose it was, I cannot speak with certainty.

Quest. Does not the No. 97 as

Mr. Mayhew

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attested in the Tichenor deposit  
by the clerk correspond with  
the right number for the  
next melt.

Ans. No.

Quest. After 96 what ought  
to have been the No. stamped  
upon the next deposit cut  
out?

Ans. On the plan proposed  
by me the No. should have  
been 99. 100.

Quest. Did you request the  
weighing Clerk to send  
out such No. 99. 100?

Ans. I did not.

Quest. Did you not suggest  
to Mr. Dimmick that it would  
be better to do away with  
the numbering of each de-  
posit & adopt the system  
of numbering the melts by  
melts?

Ans. I did on the weigh book.

Quest. You have stated that  
deposit No 96 was the last  
melted previous to the Ti-  
chenor deposit & that the No.  
of the deposit could have  
been put in the pans with  
the respective deposit.

W. S. Maynard

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- To what deposits do you allude, &

Ans. The \$97 could have been put in the form of the Bullion deposited by Topham & the \$98 in the form of the Bullion of the Sacrosanct deposit.

Quest. Were not those last deposits mentioned among the deposits reserved under your recommendation for a full milt.

Ans. Yes.

Quest. What plans did you allude to above as the ones in which the \$97 of these deposits could have been put when they were to be thus reserved & commingled with other small deposits.

Ans. The Bars used in the weigher's office. There are a great number in the vault for that purpose.

Quest. Were you present when the bar stamped \$99.2 was changed to 100?

Ans. I believe I was in the room.

Quest. Do you recollect the

Mr. Magrath

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 the time? on what day?  
 Ans. I believe that it was  
 on the following morning  
 after it was melted.

Quest. Was it before or after  
 you had taken an account  
 in your bullion book?

Ans. It was before.

Quest. Did you make the en-  
 try in your bullion book,  
 afterwards in conformity  
 with that change?

Ans. I did not.

Quest. State the reason why  
 you did not?

Ans. I copied from the weigh-  
 ing book & assayers report.

Quest. Had you any doubts  
 of the correctness of the as-  
 sayers report at the time you  
 copied it in your book?

Ans. I had not at the time  
 I did not examine the qual-  
 ity reported.

Quest. Please examine your  
 book the title of the bar the  
 No of which was changed  
 from 99 to 100 & state what  
 was its title by the assayers  
 report?

Ans. 896.

W. C. Hoagwell

June 28<sup>th</sup>

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Quest. What is the usual fineness of French crowns?

Ans. I believe 909.

Quest. Have you ever known any counterfeit of French crowns?

Ans. I have not.

Quest. Have you often smelted French crowns before?

Ans. Yes, at the Philadelphia Mint. I believe not for assay being reported on without.

Quest. Was it at the average above mentioned?

Ans. I believe that it was.

Quest. Is not the difference of 13 millims between the coins smelted & their average ~~that~~ little such a circumstance as ought to be noticed by the officers when such a difference should occur in the operations of the Mint?

Ans. I suppose the assayer should have noticed it at once.

Quest. Is it not to your knowledge that they did so & made repeated assays of that same bar?

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Ans. I am under the impression that it was not until after the Casas official-ty that the assays were repeated.

Quest. Did you ever give any notice to the Superintendent of this discrepancy in the title of these French crowns?

Ans. I believe not.

Quest. Did you see yourself these French crowns melted?

Ans. I was not present. I saw them in the melting room & have no doubt about their having been melted & returned to the Treasurer.

Quest. From the reported title of the bar-matched 99.2 & afterwards 100—do you believe that bar to have been the French crowns?

Ans. I do not.

Quest. Have you ever found French crowns before of title of 896.2?

Ans. I believe I have not.

Quest. Have you any mode of accounting satisfactorily to yourself why the title in this instance should be as

Mr. Mayfield

Mr. Mayhew

June 28<sup>th</sup>

low as 596.

Ans. I believe I can account for it. I do not believe that the bar No. 2 of 99 & afterwards 100 was assayed for the Tichnor report.

Quest. What Bullion do you suppose was assayed for the Tichnor report?

Ans. Many No 1 & 2 of 99.

Quest. Will you state your reasons why you think so?

Ans. On the morning that the discovery was made that the Coms. Deposit was missing on inspecting the parcel of bullion of the Tichnor deposit I observed that three assay pieces had been taken off one from each bar & remarked it to Mr. Bradford — Mr. Bradford immediately went to the assayer's office & returned with an assay piece which he said had been taken off by mistake by Dr. Hunt I fitted it to one of the bars of the Tichnor deposit saying that it responded. He remarked at the same time that when

Mr. Maynard

June 25<sup>th</sup>

The D<sup>r</sup> made the discovery  
by D<sup>r</sup> & Short laid it care-  
fully by.

Quest. What discovery do  
you allude to?

Ans. The discovery of the mis-  
take in taking off the three  
assay pieces.

Examined by Mr.  
Middell.

Quest. Is it not safest when  
there are a number of bars  
from the same melt to  
take an assay piece off  
of each bar?

Ans. It may be safe, but  
I do not consider it nec-  
essary in assaying silver.

Examined by Mr.  
Bradford.

Quest. Were there not two  
separate melts in this case?

Ans. Yes.

Quest. Were you present when  
Mr. Bradford applied the  
assay piece to the bar?

Ans. Yes. I saw it.

Quest. Did you any other  
person see it?

Ans. There were other persons  
in the room, Mr. Tyler was

Mr. Maypole

June 28<sup>th</sup>  
 present. I believe Mr.  
 Levick the matter was  
 present & also Mr. Dimick  
 Quest. To which bar was  
 this assay piece applied,  
 to the \$100 or to one of  
 the 99 ones?

Ans. I cannot say - of say  
 pieces are all about the  
 same size & assay pieces  
 from the bars of this de-  
 posite would have about  
 the same appearance.

Quest. Did you assist Mr.  
 Bradford in making the  
 comparison of the assay  
 piece with the piece from  
 which it had been taken  
 out.

Ans. No

Please state why you  
 did not.

Ans. I was satisfied at  
 the time that there had  
 been a mistake & did not  
 consider it important that  
 I should assist Mr. Brad-  
 ford

Quest. What did Bradford  
 say on that occasion

Ans. I cannot recall that the

W. H. Hoagwell

June 23<sup>rd</sup>

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exact words, but the amount of what he said was that it corresponded with the bar with which I compared it.

(No. 1)

Quest. Were you present & did you hear what Mr. Bradford said to Mr. Tyler on the subject of the agreement of the assay piece with the bar, at that time?

Ans. I do not recollect any remark he made at that time to Mr. Tyler by Mr. Bradford on that subject.

Quest. Recurring to the subject of the weight book for delivery of bullion mentioned in the instruction of the Director before referred to - did you give any instructions to the clerk as to how you were to be debited & credited, was it in writing or pencil mark & what were the instructions?

Ans. I have given instructions to the clerk to debit me with all the bullion received into the mint &

W. W. Mayfield

June 25<sup>th</sup> 46  
 clippings delivered to  
 me & to credit me with  
 all the ingots delivered  
 to the Treasurer by me  
 these instructions were  
 given on a slip of paper  
 in pencil marks for the pur-  
 pose of settling my account,  
 knowing that the Treasurer  
 had no regular acc<sup>t</sup> of the  
 transfer of bullion to me  
 at that time, & believing  
 that I had received all the  
 bullion that had been  
 brought into the Mint.

The instructions were  
 for the purpose of settle-  
 ment at that time.

Ques. When you heard that  
 Mexican Dollars had been  
 sent out & when you said  
 ordered them not to be  
 melted & said you would go  
 to the Treasurer's Office—did  
 you at that time see the  
 Mexican dollars alluded to?  
 Ans. I cannot say that I did  
 — I am under the impression  
 that I saw the two spans  
 in which the coin was in  
 the chest in the melting

Mr. Mayfield

June 28<sup>th</sup> 1872  
 room which is close to the stand upon which the Subscriptor's plate was placed is the closet the place to which bullion is generally taken to from the Treasurer's office to the melting room.

Ans. Yes.

Quest. You have stated that the warrants signed by the Superintendent have not been regularly issued to you, viz. those connected with your department are there not two classes of those warrants which when endorsed operate one class amounting to a receipt from you to the Treasurer & another receipt from the Treasurer to you.

Ans. Yes.

Quest. Have those warrants which operate a receipt to you ever been withheld when the other class has been duly endorsed by you if so, state when.

Ans. They never have, but it is the duty of the Treasurer to prepare both classes of

W. Mayfield

(let)

x

June 28<sup>th</sup>

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warrants of having the warrant books in my possession. Quet. You have stated that you have always been ready on your part with materials for a settlement by having all the necessary entries in your book - do you mean the book in which the Cases deposite appears entered or is that book included in the books referred to?

Ans. That is the book for which he makes his settlements of Silver

Quet. You have stated that "at the time the Silver deposite was received, you noted it as metted into wigits before you had discovered that the Cases deposite was missing on which you reserved it until the 6<sup>th</sup> of May when it was made into a pot for wigits"

Please state, why was that reservation necessary?

Ans. I believe that it was at the request of Mr. Bradford the day that the diffi-

Mr. Maywell

June 28<sup>th</sup>

the Treasurer that he could not receive the parcel of bullion about to be delivered on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of April until the difficulty was adjusted, but after investigating this difficulty for some time, I received the bullion & I believe melted the same day the deposit by the Atchafalaya Bank.

Quest. Did you pursue the business of your department thence forward as usual?

Ans. I think so up to the present time.

Quest. Have you & Mr. Dinsbury ever made a calculation on the subject of how much bullion there ought to remain in the Treasurer's vaults of the class of the Paris deposit since the difficulty respecting that affair?

Ans. I have.

Quest. What was the result of that affair calculation & the examination if any was made?

Ans. Mr. Dinsbury could account for \$400 from the small

Mr. Mayhew

June 28<sup>th</sup>

calculation book in which some of these small deposits were entered including Nos 97 & 98 on my Bullion Book which had been entered on the 16<sup>th</sup> April but had not been received. There were about \$1300 by calculation on weighing of American Dollars brought from the Treasurer's Vault.

Quest. Did that account of \$1300 agree with the calculations you both made of what ought to be there?

Ans. By calculation on weighing we agreed that there were \$1300 & that the amt of small deposits on the small calculation book together with the Nos 97 & 98 on my silver Bullion book amounted to \$900.

Quest. How did you account for the excess of \$400 over & above the amount found from the books before mentioned containing the deposits?

Ans. I believe that at the time the Garrison Cases deposited made up of that excess.

Quest. Have you any idea of

Mr. Mayfield.

June 28<sup>th</sup>

what made the balance?

Ans. I have no idea, Mr. Dinty said at the time that the spec had been received for small change.

He, Mr. Dinty at the time that the calculations were about being made from the small calculation book said that the deposits by Alberson & Savary of \$100 had been received, although it was crossed out, & at that time marked it "right" said Book is a book endorsed "Small deposit book belonging to the Treasurer's office" the calculation was made by both of us with reference to the entries in said book. There were \$700 taken from said last mentioned book & two hundred dollars from my book. My impression is that the last entry in said book of the Treasurer's office now appearing there, has been made since the period of said calculation, the paper this evening filed by Mr. Dinty under title "of account of small

Mr. Mayfield

June 28<sup>th</sup>

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deposits returned" does not correspond with the calculation made by me & Quincy as above stated—

Quest. Does not said account of reserved deposits correspond precisely with the original entries in the weighing book as exhibited on the form that went and together with them on the small ~~separate~~ book?

Ans. They correspond

Quest. Have you not stated substantially to one or more persons that you & Mr. Quincy had made a calculation & examination of the bullion in the Treasurer's vault in order to ascertain the amount which ought to remain there exclusive of the Cases Deposits & that your calculation & examination agreed?

Ans. I never did.

Here Mr. Bradford called well called for the Audit certificate & the Treasurer's receipt in the care of the deposit of J. Gilpin for \$200 received under date of 22 April 1839. See said acct. of reserved deposits this

June 28<sup>th</sup>

examined filed.

When called the Treasurer's Clerk answered that he cannot find the original receipt to Gelpi; he cannot tell if there be a receipt certificate without searching in the books which he will do tomorrow.

The margin of the certificate book shows a record as follows. A

Mr. W. B. Silver Bullion deposited by J. Gelpi Mexican coin.

Date	} 22 April 1839
Deposit	
of certificate	
net value	} 28 April 1839
	\$200

Mr. Maywell then called for the exhibition of the usual entry in the Bullion Register of receipt, payment in this case which the Treasurers Clerk answered upon examination of the Bullion register that there is no entry about this deposit there.

Mr. Diminty further added that all the confusion has happened from the wrong deposit system of the Bullion

Mr. Maywell

# RG104 Entry 24B

June 29, 1839

Abstract of Testimony  
by

David Bradford, Superintendent  
Demitry, Treasurer's Clerk;  
Jean Baptiste Ducoin, Porter  
Peter S. Leabich, Melter M&R  
Rufus Tyler, Chief Coiner

June 29<sup>th</sup> 1839. 14  
 Continuation of M<sup>r</sup>. Seabish  
 resumed.

By M<sup>r</sup>. Stidell

I do not recollect of being  
 present at any conversation be-  
 tween M<sup>r</sup>. Bradford & M<sup>r</sup>.  
 Mosier about the Tucker  
 deposit at the time of the  
 difficulty about the Casas  
 deposit. I remember that  
 I was once called in to explain  
 to all the officers how the  
 numbers came to be altered.  
 I saw no comparison of  
 the assay pieces & cannot  
 recollect whether any thing  
 was said on the subject.

I heard M<sup>r</sup>. Demetree  
 say in speaking of the Casas  
 deposit that he had made  
 a mistake about the weight  
 in entering the Casas de-  
 posit on the books. This mis-  
 take he said was made the  
 first time it was entered &  
 the reason why he made the  
 mistake a second time was  
 that the weights remained  
 in the scales & when it was  
 weighed a 2<sup>d</sup> time it weighed  
 the same that it did before.

M<sup>r</sup>. Seabish

June 29<sup>th</sup>

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He did not think it necessary  
to look over the weights

Examined on Behalf of  
Mr. Bradford.

Quest. Mr. Maywell has stated  
in his testimony that on the  
16<sup>th</sup> of April in passing thro'  
the meeting room he was in-  
formed that from the Treas-  
urers office Mexican Dollars  
had been sent out - that he  
directed the latter not to  
melt them; that he would  
go to the Treasurers Office &  
said so. You have stated in  
your testimony as follows:  
You think the day you  
received the Tichner Deposite  
there were one or more other  
deposits received by you;  
You recall that the char-  
acter of the Tichner Deposite  
was in hammered dollars &  
French pieces; you think  
that the character of the other  
bullion received by you on the  
same day was of Mexican  
dollars & that it was returned  
on the same day. Please state  
who you think returned that  
bullion the same day.

W. Leabick

June 29<sup>th</sup> 18  
Ans. I do not recollect who  
it was taken back by.

W. S. La Roche

(18)

12

18.

Collected.

JUNE 29<sup>th</sup> 1839. 1.  
Met agreeably to adjournment.

Same persons present  
Mr. Dimick was sworn  
Examined by the Commis-  
sioner.

I was not present at  
the whole conversation between  
Mr. Bradford & Mr. Maywell  
in the weighing office - after  
I came in I heard no con-  
versation between Mr. Bradford  
& Mr. Maywell on the subject  
of the assay piece.

Mr. Tyler was sworn  
Examined by the Commis-  
sioner.

I have but little recollec-  
tion of the conversation between  
Mr. Bradford & Mr. Maywell  
in the weighing room as to  
the Dickner reports.

I have an indistinct re-  
collection of Mr. Bradford  
bringing down an assay  
piece & comparing it with  
the Dickner bars, I cannot  
recollect what was said by  
Mr. Bradford of the said

~~Mr. Bradford~~  
Mr. Dimick

Mr. Tyler

(18)

12

18.

Collected.

JUNE 29<sup>th</sup> 1839. 1.  
Met agreeably to adjournment.

Same persons present  
Mr. Dimick was sworn  
Examined by the Commis-  
sioner.

I was not present at  
the whole conversation between  
Mr. Bradford & Mr. Maywell  
in the weighing office - after  
I came in I heard no con-  
versation between Mr. Bradford  
& Mr. Maywell on the subject  
of the assay piece.

Mr. Tyler was sworn  
Examined by the Commis-  
sioner.

I have but little recollec-  
tion of the conversation between  
Mr. Bradford & Mr. Maywell  
in the weighing room as to  
the Trechnor reports.

I have an indistinct re-  
collection of Mr. Bradford  
bringing down an assay  
piece & comparing it with  
the Trechnor bars, I cannot  
recollect what was said by  
Mr. Bradford of the said

~~Mr. Bradford~~  
Mr. Dimick

Mr. Tyler

June 29<sup>th</sup>2  
3

(S. 1)

comparison, nor what was the ~~result~~ <sup>result</sup> of the comparison. I presume ~~he~~ <sup>you</sup> paid but little attention to that part of the discussion otherwise ~~the~~ <sup>you</sup> supposes I should have recollected what conversation passed on that point.

M<sup>r</sup>. Ducoin was called and sworn.

Examined by the Com-  
missioners

Produces the memorandum spoken of in his previous testimony - It is in these words, written on a small slip of paper in ink.

"4212 Conté par moi"

J. B. D. Jamien Casas

Dépot "

I found this memorandum yesterday in my armor at my house - I am sure it is the same I made at the time stated in my previous testimony -

Said paper is filed.

~~Mr. Ducoin~~  
Mr. Tyler

Mr. Ducoin

June 29<sup>th</sup>2  
3

(S. 1)

comparison, nor what was the ~~result~~ <sup>result</sup> of the comparison. I presume ~~he~~ <sup>you</sup> paid but little attention to that part of the discussion otherwise ~~the~~ <sup>you</sup> supposes I should have recollected what conversation passed on that point.

M<sup>r</sup>. Ducoin was called and sworn.

Examined by the Com-  
missioners

Produces the memo-  
randum spoken of in  
his previous testimony—  
It is in these words, writ-  
ten on a small slip of  
paper in ink.

"4212 Conte par moi"

J. B. D. Jarnion Casas

Dépot "

I found this memo-  
randum yesterday in my armour at my  
house - I am sure it is the  
same I made at the time  
stated in my previous  
testimony—

Said paper is filed.

~~Mr. Ducoin~~  
Mr. Tyler

Mr. Ducoin

June 29<sup>th</sup>

This bulletin Mr. Maywell represented to me as having been mixed up by Humphreys' Trust. Did Mr. Maywell ever call upon you to recommend the dismissal of Dr. Hort, if so when, & what reasons were assigned & Ans. No, not formally. I inferred that it was Mr. Maywell's wish that he, Dr. Hort should resign, for the reasons that Mr. Maywell complained that Dr. Hort's assays were erroneous. I recollect that substantially by Mr. Maywell charged in the last summer, Dr. Hort with having erroneously assayed to a loss of 4 lbs of Gold, & that Mr. Walter & Refiner could stand such erroneous assaying.

The Commissioner has called on Mr. Maywell for a written statement detailing what he had charged against Dr. Hort in relation to erroneous assays & the grounds & particulars of his objections in relation

Mr. Bradford

Mr. Bradford

June 24<sup>th</sup>

To the Assayers course & reports in such matters.

The Treasurer & Superintendent are requested to afford to the Auditor & Refiner all proper facilities by inspection of books, documents & otherwise for the preparation of this statement, which is expected to be filed under oath in writing on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> of July & Dr. Hort will be allowed until Tuesday 2<sup>d</sup> July to file a written reply under oath to such charges; both parties are expected to confine themselves to the subject of erroneous assays made or charged to have been made by Dr. Hort.

Quest. Did the Auditor & Refiner state to you that he could demonstrate from the books of the establishment or any portion of them the incorrectness of Dr. Hort's assays?

Ans. He did. He made this remark in the Summer of 1838 - & again this year not long since.

Mr. Bradford.

June 29<sup>th</sup>

Quet. Do you conceive your-  
self as having sufficient  
scientific acquaintance  
with the subject to express  
an opinion as to the propri-  
ety of the mode in which  
Mr. Maxwell has conducted  
the operations in the separ-  
ating room

Ans. I do not, but from  
hearing him, Mr. Maxwell  
say that he did on a large  
scale what was done in  
the assaying room on a  
small one. I have thought  
that in the separating room  
the chloride of silver as it  
is termed was not sufficient-  
ly agitated, having witness-  
ed this to be the most tedious  
part of the operation in  
the assay room.

Quet. You were present at  
the giving on yesterday eve-  
ning by Mr. Maxwell of his  
testimony on the subject of  
the comparison of an assay  
piece made by you in the  
weigh room & your remarks  
I conducted on that occasion.  
Would you desire any additions

June 29<sup>th</sup>12  
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statement or explanation  
on that subject?

Ans. Insurer did say that  
the assay price corresponded,  
on the contrary I stated to  
Mr. Tyler that it did not  
suit at all - & I have a dis-  
tinct recollection at this  
moment of the want of cor-  
respondence from the dif-  
ference of composition between  
the assay piece & the bars,  
the latter being of a dark  
lead colour, but the assay  
piece was perfectly black  
Quint. Is it or is it not the  
usage of the Treasurer's Office  
to make entries of Foreign  
Coins deposited where the  
Depositor is paid within  
four or five days afterwards  
in small change for instance  
an amount of \$200?

Ans. In such a case I think  
the deposits would be weighed  
& an receipt issued - I have  
not attended sufficiently to  
the practice in relation to  
small deposits to know  
what the precise usage is  
Quint. It is stated by Mr.

Mr. Bradford

Mr. Bradford

June 29<sup>th</sup>  
 Quilpi that he brought  
 in the month of April but  
 200 Mexican dollars to the  
 Mint & that about four or  
 five days afterwards he was  
 paid \$200 in small change  
 of 1/2 dimes. Do you think  
 that in such a case a receipt  
 should have been issued to him  
 & a mint certificate issued  
 & endorsed by him before  
 receiving payment of such  
 endorsed certificate passed  
 as a voucher.

Ans. I think that a receipt  
 ought to have been given to  
 him by the clerk, a receipt  
 of a particular character, the  
 procedure not being regular  
 & that no mint certificate  
 should have <sup>been</sup> issued at all.

Quist. Do you think that  
 the transaction of Quilpi  
 should have been recorded  
 in the Silver Bulletin Regis-  
 ter, or in some permanent  
 record book of the Treasurer's  
 Office?

Ans. I do not think that  
 it should have been recorded  
 in the Silver Bulletin Register.

June 29<sup>th</sup>

12  
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unless, that should be inferred from the instructions in relation to the purchase of bullion & which I do not now recollect.

This transaction I now consider as essentially a purchase of bullion for coinage, but at the time of the adoption of the rule for the reserved deposits, I did not consider it in the same light & made no reference to the instructions, but considered myself authorized by the letter of the Secretary of the Treasury in relation to the distribution of small change in the Valley of the Mississippi.

Ques. On what respect is the case of Gulf of distinguishable from the deposit of Seignior recorded in the Bullion Register as received on the 18<sup>th</sup> April & paid on the 26<sup>th</sup> of April?

Ans. The Seignior deposit I find (on an inspection of the register) to be one of hammered dollars which

Mr. Bradford

W. Bradford

June 29<sup>th</sup>

13  
XXX

required to be melted, the other, I have understood to be of Mexican Dollars coins reserved under my directions for a full melt.

Quest. In what respect is the case of Guelpi distinguishable from the case of J. Casas described as Mexican Dollars in the Bullion Register & therein recorded as received on the 18<sup>th</sup> of April & paid on the 20<sup>th</sup> of April?

Ans. Only in this, that Casas' deposit was received as an ordinary deposit for coinage which was contrary to my previous directions. The Guelpi deposit was received in conformity with my directions for small deposits.

Quest. In what respect does the said Guelpi case differ from the case of B. Piffett recorded in the Bullion Register as Mexican Dollars received on the 6<sup>th</sup> of May & paid on the 8<sup>th</sup> of May?

Ans. On the 22<sup>nd</sup> of April, as I believe, I left the subject to

W. Bradford

 June 29<sup>th</sup>

 14  
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the discretion of the Treasurer who protested against the assumed deposits, & I then considered ~~my~~ <sup>my</sup> directions as rescinded.

Quest. Is not the case of D. Cases recorded in the weighing book as paid in small change.

Ans. It is.

Quest. On assaying ingot 82, Ligardis, was there or were there not found 8 ounces of gold in June 1838—

I know nothing about said ingot except the following memoranda viz:

~~442 Centigramme~~  
~~L. D. Cassin's Case~~

~~24~~

M. J. Robert, Sec. Orleans

June 29-1838.

The enclosed pieces of silver containing gold were taken by me from an Ingot cast in the Quarter eagle ingot molds N<sup>o</sup> 2 one from the bottom the other from the top of the ingot.

David Bradford Sept.

I notified N<sup>o</sup> 1 and N<sup>o</sup> 2 over doing with the Shays & B.

(Sept page).

15  
XJune 29<sup>th</sup>

Indorsed  
Assay prices, June  
29 - 1858.

In the trial of assaying  
silver containing gold, two  
pieces were taken down of op-  
posite ends of same ingots (the  
quarter eagle size) & numbered  
the one from the bottom end  
No. 1 & the piece from the upper  
end No. 2. Ingot on melt No.  
52.

Ref<sup>d</sup> by Assayer  
July 1858.

He produced the assay  
prices which deponent had  
preserved & forgot to return  
to the Mettler & W. Fenix at  
the time deponent returned  
Mr. Maywell's letter complain-  
ing of the erroneous assays of  
Dr. Hort - the assay prices &  
memoranda produced were  
wrapped up together by  
deponent & <sup>now</sup> ~~not~~ <sup>then</sup> produced.

Deponent gave the  
assay prices himself to the  
assayer.

Deponent does not know  
that there is an account of  
the weight of said ingot 52.

W. Bradford

Mr. Bradford

June 29<sup>th</sup> 1838  
after assay, to be found in  
the weighing book. Does not  
know of the Miller & Refiner  
was charged with assay re-  
lating thereto in his gold acct.  
in July last. —

Mr. Bradford here  
gives over the said assay price  
to the Miller & Refiner.

Mr. Did not Mr. May-  
well write you a letter in  
June 1838 stating the excess  
of gold in the Ligand deposits,  
and did you not, on the  
17<sup>th</sup> of July in your letter to  
the Director say that the gold  
account was correct.

Mr. Maywell wrote me  
on or about that date in  
relation to said deposits —  
don't know whether he  
stated an excess or deficien-  
cy — and stated in Dependent's  
letter to Director of 17 July  
1838 that Mr. Maywell's gold  
account was correct — Previous  
to which the difficulty between  
Mr. Maywell & Dr. Hort. was  
settled & Dependent returned  
their correspondence —  
Dependent is situated an enquiry

Mr. Bradford

June 29<sup>th</sup>  
 into said difficulty as to  
 gold in July 1838 - for the  
 purpose of ascertaining the  
 amount & to whom it belonged  
 the principal object was to  
 know whether the assayer  
 was right or wrong - Was  
 perfectly satisfied that the  
 assayer was right on that  
 particular occasion.

Quest. I am directed by the  
 Secy. of the Treasury to en-  
 quire into the qualifications  
 & efficiency of Mr. Stanton  
 for Melter & Refiner & of  
 either Mr. W. D. Denny or  
 Mr. Brown as coiners, re-  
 commended to succeed the  
 Melter & Refiner & the coin-

Can you suggest to me  
 the names of any scientific  
 person or persons compe-  
 tent to express an opinion  
 on such subject who are  
 acquainted with the qual-  
 ifications of said gentlemen

Mr. Bradford suggests  
 that Mr. J. Garcia, Genl.  
 Planché & Dr. Hott be  
 referred to on this sub-  
 ject.

June 29<sup>th</sup> 1865

The commissioner re-  
quested Mr. Bradford to  
ask the attendance of these  
gentlemen at 4 O'clock on  
Tuesday evening.

Mr. Bradford

# RG104 Entry 24B

July 1, 1839

Abstract of Testimony  
by  
James Maxwell, Melter & Refiner;  
Edward H. Brown, Machinist

(7)

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18

Continued.

Mr Maxwell

July 1<sup>st</sup> 1839  
 Examinations of Mr  
 Maxwell resumed.

On behalf of Mr Bradford.  
 Qu<sup>st</sup>. In your extended an-  
 -swer presented this day to  
 the last question put to you  
 on a former occasion, you  
 state that the torn leaves  
 were not produced until  
 after the calculation was  
 made. Please state what  
 day of the month the calcu-  
 -lation was made?

Ans. The calculation was  
 made on the 22<sup>d</sup> of April.  
 Qu<sup>st</sup>. When were you first  
 informed that a sheet had  
 been removed from the  
 weighing book?

Ans. I first discovered it  
 myself the morning the  
 calculation was made.  
 on an examination of  
 the weighing book.

Qu<sup>st</sup>. Did you mention the  
 discovery to any one?

Ans. I mentioned it to Mr  
 Demetree, that there had  
 been two leaves torn out.

Qu<sup>st</sup>. Did Mr Demetree or  
 any other person search

McClamell

July 1<sup>st</sup>  
 for I find them. & if any  
 other person states who?  
 Ans: Mr Bradford informed  
 me that Mr Parker brought  
 the leaves to him that even-  
 -ing or on the following  
 morning.

Quest: Have you seen the  
 displaced leaves?

Ans: I have, I have examined  
 them.

Quest: Have they ever been  
 kept from your examina-  
 -tion, have you not had  
 full access to them?

Ans: I believe so.

Quest: If the object in displa-  
 -cing that sheet in the weighing  
 book had been to conceal any  
 thing in relation to the Casar  
 deposits state how in your  
 opinion could the person  
 removing it avail himself  
 of such removal for the pur-  
 -pose of concealment?

Ans: I prefer not answering  
 the question.

Quest: In your book labelled  
 "Gold Molds - Branch Mint  
 New Orleans - Molds of Depo-  
 -sited office on the page headed:

Mr. Maxwell

July 1<sup>st</sup>

United States Branch Mint  
New Orleans January 25 1839

Gold & silver granulated for  
separation, in which entries  
are made against No 24  
- 20 fr to the bottom of the  
page - Please state from  
what source those entries  
are derived?

Ans: From my gold bullion  
- on book.

Quis: State from what source  
are the entries in your gold  
bullion book derived?

Ans: For the most part from  
the weighing book & the as-  
sayers reports.

Quis: From what source is  
the other part of the above  
mentioned entries derived?

Ans: I have one charge of  
assay pieces 1  $\frac{7}{8}$  oz which  
is not derived from the as-  
sayers reports, or the weigh-  
ing book.

Quis: So that all the entry ex-  
- cept the ones derived from  
the assayer's reports & the  
weighing book.

Ans: I believe so.

Quis: Are you sure the entries

W. A. Maxwell

July 1<sup>st</sup>

above mentioned in your  
Gold Melt book aforesaid  
correspond with the weighing  
book & assayers reports?

Ans. Yes they do. They corres-  
pond in quality with the  
assayers reports.

Qu<sup>est</sup>. Look upon the page pre-  
ceding the one referred to  
& particularly the titles of bars  
A. 3, C. 3 & C. 4 & state from  
what source you derived the  
titles respectively fixed to  
those bars on the book.

Ans. From the assayers re-  
port.

Qu<sup>est</sup>. Upon examination  
of the 1<sup>st</sup> entry on the torn  
sheet it appears in regard to  
the Casas deposits that the  
entry shows an increase of  
weight of about 100 gms between  
the gross weight before melt-  
ing according to said torn  
sheet & the weight after melt-  
ing. State whether the weight  
I said anything to you  
in reference to a mistake  
about that weight commit-  
ted by himself?

Ans. Mr. Denney remarked

My Macmill

f

July 1<sup>st</sup>  
 that there was a mistake  
 that it should be 173 oz  
 it appeared to be 183 oz. I  
 remarked to him that it  
 was a very strange thing  
 that he should make the  
 same mistake after as be-  
 fore melting. He ac-  
 counted for it by saying  
 that the weights remained  
 in the scales until it was  
 melted for it weighed the  
 same, he did not think it  
 necessary to examine the  
 weights or something to  
 that purpose.

Ques. Was this before or after  
 you stated that the Casas  
 deposit was not sent out  
 to the melting room?

Ans. It must have been  
 after.

Ques. Was it before or after  
 you discovered that the sheet  
 had been displaced from  
 the weighing book?

Ans. It was after on the same  
 day.

Ques. By the Commissioner  
 Did you take the entry in  
 your silver bullion of

Mr Macwell

July 1<sup>st</sup>  
the Cash deposited from the  
town sheet, or, from the new  
entries thereof in the weight  
book?

Ans. From the new.

Ques. How often at what stage  
of the proceeding & at what time  
of the day were you in the habit  
of transferring entries from  
the weight book into the silver  
Bullion book?

Ans. I have no stated periods.  
I generally receive it when  
there is enough for two or  
three melts, after assay,  
being most of the time out  
of Bullion. I make these  
entries mostly in the fore-  
noon & receive the bullion  
at that time.

The weight books of Mr  
Macwell being called  
for Mr Macwell produced  
two memorandum books—  
on inspection these books are  
found to contain entries  
as to clippings & Ingots re-  
turned to Recasurers, but  
contain no entries of receipts  
of bullion for melting from  
the Treasurers office—call

Mr Maxwell

July 1<sup>st</sup>  
 Maxwell requests to refer  
 to his Bullion book which  
 has been produced for in-  
 formation as to bullion  
 received by him for Treas-  
 urer &c. his testimony  
 heretofore given for fur-  
 ther explanation—  
 (called for on the 2<sup>d</sup> July)

(22)

Collected.

July 1<sup>st</sup> 1839Edward F. Brown sworn  
Examined by the Commissioner.

I am aged 27 years my  
profession is that of a  
Theoretical & Practical  
Machinist I have been  
engaged in that profession  
since I was 18 years of age.

I was engaged for this  
mint in Philadelphia  
on the 1<sup>st</sup> of May 1837 as  
foreman for the coiners  
department & commenced  
my operation on the 12<sup>th</sup>  
of December of that year.

I remained here until  
about the 1<sup>st</sup> of July 1838.  
Mr. Tyler was here while  
I was employed he was  
here as chief coiner.

I have heard conversa-  
tions between Mr. Tyler  
& Mr. Maxwell on the sub-  
ject of Southern officers.

I have heard a conversa-  
tion between Mr. Tyler &  
Maxwell on the subject  
of the weight matter they  
seemed to have the impres-  
sion that it was thought

Mr. Brown

Mr. Brown

July 1<sup>st</sup>  
 to make the appointment  
 of weigh matter. Their  
 desire was that a brother  
 of Mr. Tyler should have  
 the place of ~~Mr. Maxwell~~  
 about this time Mr. Durel  
 came to the mint as an  
 applicant for this appoint-  
 ment. I heard Mr. Max-  
 well remark to Mr. Ty-  
 ler after seeing Mr. Du-  
 rel that he supposed  
 Mr. Durel was an infe-  
 rior Preachman that  
 probably had been a  
 clerk in some store &  
 would weigh within a  
 pound 14<sup>th</sup>. I did not know  
 whether or not this remark  
 was made maliciously  
 but afterwards came to  
 the conclusion that it was  
 for this reason that Mr.  
 Maxwell & Tyler seemed  
 to fear that if a number  
 of lesser officers came  
 into the Mint, & were not  
 kept out, they & Maxwell &  
 Tyler would eventually  
 lose their offices my opin-  
 ion is that the intention

Mr Brown

July 2<sup>nd</sup>  
 of Maxwell & Tyler to get  
 such subordinate officers  
 as they ~~could~~ manage &  
 particularly to get in a  
 weigh matter. To point  
 a needle or some small  
 work of the sort at which  
 he can occupy time he does  
 very well, but as a prac-  
 tical workman he con-  
 sidered him as ineffici-  
 ent — as a Theoretical  
 Machinist I consider him  
 as respectable but I con-  
 sider him inefficient as  
 a practical & general ma-  
 chinist — I have been  
 informed by Tyler's former  
 partners that he has failed  
 nearly all his partners, that  
 they were obliged to sell  
 out or get rid of him to  
 save themselves.

I was employed in the Mint  
 here in Philadelphia with  
 Mr Tyler about a year &  
 upwards — I was employed  
 by Mr Tyler for the pur-  
 pose of learning at the  
 Mint in Philadelphia  
 the operations of the coining.

July 1<sup>st</sup>  
 department with a view  
 of coming to New Orleans  
 to teach the hands here.  
 When the Machinery ar-  
 rived in New Orleans it  
 was in as good order as  
 could be expected coming  
 from such a distance.  
 It required some clearing  
 from rust to put it in  
 operation.

It was found neces-  
 -sary to make some chan-  
 -ges in the building when  
 the Machinery arrived, but  
 I think that one month  
 would have been sufficient  
 to make these alterations  
 in the building.

All the machinery was  
 here in the building when  
 we came here in December  
 excepting some tools. These  
 tools were not, however ne-  
 -cessary to put the corner's  
 department in operation.

There was nothing wanting  
 that was necessary to com-  
 -mence operations.

Just at what period do you  
 conceive the corner could mth

Mr. Brown

Mr. Brown

July 1<sup>st</sup>  
 reasonable diligence have  
 commenced the regular  
 operations of coining?  
 Ans. I think that he might  
 have commenced in 3  
 months without any diffi-  
 -culty whatever - say the  
 1<sup>st</sup> of March 1838. even  
 then I think that a month  
 would have been wasted -  
 Quest: Was any machinery  
 condemned by the court?

Ans. 1<sup>st</sup> The three coining  
 presses were condemned,  
 2<sup>d</sup> The Milling press, or machine  
 3<sup>d</sup> The Rolls were condemned  
 4<sup>th</sup> The Steam Engine  
 5<sup>th</sup> Some of the cutting presses  
 6<sup>th</sup> The Draw bench excepting  
 the Saws, were condemned  
 by Mr. Tyler.

Quest: State the reason why  
 the coining presses were  
 condemned & whether the  
 condemnation was reason-  
 -able & if otherwise why not  
 reasonable?

Ans. Mr. Tyler said to me,  
 what is your interest is mine  
 & what is mine is yours, Mr.  
 Tyler said to me I wish

July 1<sup>st</sup>

you to give the men to understand that this machinery is insufficient & will not answer the purpose for which it was intended; but said he Mr. Tyler if I can't keep the steel away & make some little alteration to suit my purpose then I shall leave.

His alteration was to strengthen the triangle by putting 2 pieces in the centre of the alter the pivots — a short time after he altered the socket & ball of the joint by making them smaller. These were all the alterations in the half dime press.

He also altered the triangle in the half dollar press in the same way that he had altered the triangle in the half dime press.

The third press was not altered but was put in the machine shop to rust instead of being put up as it ought to have been. The quarter dollar press now in the machine room is as capable of working as either of the

Mr. Brown

Wm Brown

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July 1<sup>st</sup>  
 After two presses with the  
 exception of the triangle—  
 which is not strong enough  
 to hold the die a new tri-  
 angle was brought out from  
 Philadelphia for the purpose  
 of replacing in the room of  
 its original triangle— On  
 trial in Philadelphia one  
 made on the same pattern  
 was found to be sufficient-  
 ly strong. I think the above  
 alterations were improper  
 & will eventually prove so.  
 These presses can be used  
 now but I think they will  
 be found to wear the die more  
 than if they had put in the  
 triangle that was brought out  
 intended to replace the one  
 in the press. it would have  
 been stiffer & would have  
 held the die fast & have pre-  
 vented its moving— It  
 was much more work to alter  
 the triangle as it now is than  
 it would have been to find  
 the new one. I considered  
 it improper to alter the ball  
 & socket as afterwards he  
 the Phil was obliged to fix

Mr. Brown

July 1<sup>st</sup>  
a plan to make it oil stuff,  
as it is now fixed, unless  
altered since I have left;  
otherwise he would have  
had to throw it out &  
adopt it as it was be-  
fore. as the point of bear-  
ing was so much less  
that it created more fric-  
tion.

Ques. a ball & socket being  
now exhibited to the witness  
of the ball appearing to  
have lost a considerable  
portion of its surface to-  
wards the extremity of the  
circle where it meets the  
socket, exhibiting a rough  
& porous appearance, the wit-  
ness is asked if he knows  
whether this ball & socket  
were among those sent out from  
Philadelphia or were prepared  
here & to what press they belong?  
Ans. I cannot swear whether  
that ball & socket or either of  
them were made here, or sent  
out from Philadelphia for  
they can be made so much  
alike that they cannot be  
distinguished one from the

Edw. Brown

July 1<sup>st</sup>  
 As I have no recollection  
 of seeing any crack in the  
 socket of the one sent out  
 from Philadelphia in the  
 one exhibited there appears to  
 be a crack. The one exhibit-  
 ed appears to belong to the  
 5 dollar press.

Ques. From examination  
 of this ball & socket, state  
 to what cause you would  
 attribute the abrasion of the  
 surface of said ball & the  
 rough & damaged condition  
 which it exhibits.

Ans. Occasioned by not  
 keeping it properly oiled,  
 it is impossible to bear the  
 surface as it is, if kept  
 properly oiled. — The proof  
 of this is by ascertaining  
 how much was coined be-  
 fore it was thus injured.  
 I believe that the injury  
 was done in less than  
 10 minutes after the first  
 commencement.

There was some fin-  
 ishing & brightening  
 work done which I consid-  
 ered unnecessary & which

Mr. Brown

July 1<sup>st</sup>

expended time to no purpose.  
I cannot tell how much  
time was spent in brighten-  
-ing machinery it was done  
to keep the hands from idl-  
-ness & pass extra time at that.  
I believe that the coming  
pieces were designed by  
Mr. Peck & made according  
to his plan.

State the reason as-  
-signed by Mr. Tyler for  
the condemnation of the mil-  
-ling press or machine?

Ans. That with regard to  
the milling presses there  
were no important changes  
made to them, if there were  
any changes they were tri-  
-alling they were taken a-  
-part & cleaned & no alter-  
-ations to my knowledge.

As put them in operation  
after their connection with  
the propelling power was  
made.

Ques. Did you consider the  
work as stated done to the  
milling press or machine  
as necessary or unnecessa-  
-ry?

July 1<sup>st</sup>

Ans. Whatever might have been done to them, was necessary, I think Mr. Peel was the designer of the milling Press.

Ques. State the reason assigned by Mr. Tyler for the condemnation of the rolls?

Ans. The rolls were badly rusted & had been considerably damaged by the salt water. They were taken into the machine shop to grind them, they were partially ground & made bright - but I question whether bettered in any other way than that their surface was made smoother.

The plan adopted to grind them was considered by myself & by nearly all the machinists as a bad one.

Dennis & Cochran disapproved of it. If the remaining machinist was not in the shop much of the time.

Ques. Was or was not the work done to the Rolls by Mr. Tyler necessary or unnecessary?

Ans. The time spent was un-

Mr. Brown

July 1<sup>st</sup>

necessarily long in doing the work, but the cleaning was necessary. I considered the work badly & improperly done. I considered it necessary to grind them so far as was necessary to take off the rust, but the method adopted was tedious.

Ques: State what reasons were assigned by Mr Tyler for the condemnation of the Steam Engine & what work or alterations were put by Mr Tyler on the Steam Engine?

Ans: There were no alterations made to the Steam Engine, but the Engine was out of line by the new foundation on which it was placed, settling this is common in this country in consequence of the softness of the soil — It took but a short time to put it in line again. In following Mr Tyler's mode of putting it in line, it required more time than was necessary, but the time was not long. The engine after it was put

Mr. Tyler

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July 1<sup>st</sup>  
in line worked handsomely.  
Quest. Was or was not the  
work done to the Engine in  
your opinion necessary?

Answers it was.

Quest. State the reasons as-  
signed by Mr. Tyler for the  
condemnation of some of  
the cutting presses & what  
work or alterations were  
put on them by Mr. Tyler?

He stated they were  
improperly fitted & badly  
finished. He took out one  
of the guides and had them  
polished to a high polish  
for the purpose of showing  
the difference of finish. The  
stake that holds the punch  
was taken out of two of them  
& grubbed down to make them  
fit better & probably they were  
made to fit better or answer  
the purpose better, it is ne-  
cessary in all machinery  
to take a part some of the  
movements, to adjust them.

Machinery generally requires  
such adjustment more or less.  
Quest. Was or was not the  
work done by Mr. Tyler to

Mr Brown

July 1<sup>st</sup>

the cutting presses, necessary or unnecessary in your opinion -  
- now?

Ans: Should think it might have been necessary, being usually so to adjust new machinery.

Quest: State the reasons assigned by Mr Tyler for the condemnation of the draw-bench, excepting the saws, & state what work was by him done to, or changes made in the draw-bench?

Ans: The fault he found with the draw-bench was that the work was not well done, in the manner of finishing. He made some alterations; he took the roll out, or the carrier, and introduced a board or plank for the chains to traverse over. The wooden sides of the bench were also scraped and rubbed down with oil, in order to make them hold better - the heads through which the bar passes were also taken to the shop of new rolls put in, as he present believes -

July 1<sup>st</sup>

Ques: State whether in your opinion the work done by Mr. Tyler to the draw bench, excepting the Saws, was necessary or unnecessary.

all that was done to the draw bench was unnecessary. Great pains had been taken to preserve the heads from rust. ~~They~~ having been kept at the Union Bank from the time of being imported here. the Saws were made by Minick, agent of Tyler - don't know who made the bench, but thinks it was made at the same shop; don't recollect how much time was spent on the draw bench.

Ques: Do you think the operations of the mint were retarded by Mr. Tyler, & if so, how much time was lost through his fault?

Answer Yes - thinks two months at the least. Calculations was wasted by him & extra wages paid the men employed by him, & not half work at that - the machinists had work all the time, but the other hands, that

Mr. Brown

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July 1st

is to say the coiners fullus  
had not work

Ques. Have you ever observed  
any improper conduct by Mr  
Tyler with relation to the  
matter of Defines department  
of his intercourse or transactions  
therewith?

Ans. The most improper thing  
witness has known on this  
subject was that they passed  
the Bullion back & forwards  
between them without the war-  
rant of the Superintendent,  
which witness knows they  
did not have. On one occasi-  
-on witness was asked by  
Mr Tyler if he, witness had  
not some business in the city  
at that time they had been coin-  
-ing for some time. It was  
some time about 1 June 1838 all  
they had coined was to no  
purpose. Mr Tyler had a  
considerable amount of  
coin & planchets on hand that  
was not correct some of the  
pieces, both planchets & coins  
were too heavy for some  
too light - Defendant agree-  
-ably to Mr Tyler's orders

M. Brown

Mr. Brown

July 1<sup>st</sup>  
 went out into the city, Tyler  
 telling him he would pay  
 him for his time if Depo-  
 nent should not lose any time by  
 going. he told witness he  
 might go out for the remainder  
 of the day, as no more would  
 be coined that day. Depo-  
 nent went out agreeably to his or-  
 ders, and after being out  
 a few minutes, mistrusted  
 what might be the case; De-  
 ponent came in by the room  
 over the weigh room. a few  
 days before there had been a  
 hole cut through the arch over  
 the weigh room to pass a  
 rod to hold the scales.  
 Depo- nent looked through the  
 hole & saw Mr. Lilly, Mr.  
 Tyler and Mr. Macwell en-  
 gaged in weighing the strips  
 of planchets of coins aforemen-  
 tioned as being imperfect.  
 Depo- nent supposed the rea-  
 sons why he Depo- nent was  
 sent out, was that he should  
 not know of what was doing.  
 Mr. Tyler got Charles Motte,  
 a blacksmith, at the mint to  
 help carry these articles, who

July 1<sup>st</sup>  
 had never been so employed  
 before, to the weight room; the  
 object was to have them re-  
 melted into ingots, so as to  
 recognize them. — Knows no-  
 thing further positive about  
 this particular transaction —  
 Deponent does not know  
 whether the passing back & for-  
 wards of the Bullion that af-  
 terwards took place was a-  
 -grecably to Law or not? He  
 is unable to state. But  
 deponent believes that there  
 was a continual shuffling  
 backwards & forwards un-  
 -knowing to any one else  
 but those two, that is Mr Tyler  
 & Mr Maxwell.  
 By shuffling deponent  
 means that the corner made  
 a mistake; the planchets  
 would neither weigh nor count  
 correctly they would be either  
 too heavy or too light; then it  
 was returned by Mr Tyler  
 to Mr Maxwell & remelted  
 into ingots & then returned  
 back to Mr Tyler. Depo-  
 -nent believes all this was  
 done without the knowledge

Mr Brown

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July 1<sup>st</sup>  
of the Superintendent - if  
further believes that they  
were ashamed to let him  
know it

Quest: Please state if you  
know anything in relation  
to a plan of the crimer to keep  
the assayer out of the Treasur-  
er's office at any time &  
for what purpose?

Ans: Mr. Tyler expressed  
himself to me by saying that  
he wished he could get some  
plan to keep Mr. Hook out of  
the Treasurer's office, he was  
always in it; he stated to  
me that he would give him some  
pieces to assay that would  
keep him out a short time  
after this took place there  
was an accident happened  
in <sup>assaying</sup> annealing some planchets.  
these planchets were in a  
cylinder 3 inches diameter  
12 ft long. they were made  
of copper & brazed with hard  
solder, using borax to braze  
them it acted as a cement,  
which caused the pieces to  
stick & run together, with  
less heat than would otherwise

C. M. Brown

McDrown

July 1<sup>st</sup>  
 have taken place if there  
 had been no borax in the  
 cylinder. They were melted  
 together so that in a part  
 of the pieces the portion of  
 alloy was nearly burned  
 out so as to make the silver  
 for near fine silver, a part  
 at one end of the bar, or  
 cylinder was not heated  
 enough to injure them while  
 the other end was red hot.  
 These pieces were known to  
 be spoiled as to standard, some  
 above standard, & some below  
 when I was taking these pieces  
 out of the bar Mr Tyler came  
 into the room & examined  
 them, taking some below  
 & some above standard, of  
 which we had no reason  
 to doubt, saying to me  
 do you think that will  
 not answer to keep the  
 Dr out of the Treasurer's  
 office. I told him that part  
 of them, the alloy, was all  
 burned out & that it would  
 be of no use - & he said  
 that was no matter it would  
 keep him the Dr out of the

Mr Brown

July 1<sup>st</sup>  
 Treasurer's office. — He took  
 a handful of them & went  
 to his room & afterwards I  
 saw them or other pieces like  
 them, they could not be told  
 apart done up in small  
 parcels & numbered & I sup-  
 -pose they were sent to the  
 assayer to be assayed for  
 the purpose of keeping him  
 out of the Treasurer's office.  
 I believe they were the  
 same planchets before spo-  
 -ken of.

Quest. State any thing that  
 you know as to Philip B  
 Tyler, brother of the Criner,  
 being employed one month  
 or thereabouts in making  
 drawings for a Mr Marshall  
 of Philadelphia when he  
 was receiving at the same  
 time full pay & extra pay  
 for his services as a chas-  
 -sinist or workman in  
 this Branch Mint?

Ans. Mr Philip B Tyler the  
 Brother of the Criner & Mr Ty-  
 -ler the Criner were both  
 engaged more or less in  
 making these drawings.

Mr. Brown

July 1<sup>st</sup>

Mr. Tyler designed them & Mr. Philas B. Tyler made the drawings — Mr. Tyler always, when Dr. Hunt came into the room would immediately take him out of the room to prevent his asking what the drawings were. Mr. Tyler was very particular about any one knowing of this transaction —

They were I think a month & full three quarters of that time employed.

These drawings were for a sawing lathe I made expressly for the Carrollton Rail Road, Mr. Marshall was the one who was to build the lathe. I am positive that Philas B.

Tyler got extra pay that month as I believe this time should have been occupied in getting the machinery in operation ready for the lathe. The business was prolonged I kept back from want of knowledge by the workmen to go on with the business.

# RG104 Entry 24B

July 2, 1839

Abstract of Testimony  
by

Documents Requested for Commissioner;  
Edward H. Brown, Machinist;  
James W. Zacharie, J.W. Zacharie &  
Company Stock and Specie Merchants  
Benjamin Fox, Building Contractor;  
Joseph B. Harmstead, Machinist Coining  
Department

(9)

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Collected.

July 2<sup>d</sup> 1839  
 Met agreeably to adjournment.  
 Same persons present

In answer to the call made by the Commis-  
 sioner on Friday evening  
 for certain accounts & state-  
 ments. Mr. Bradford filed  
 a statement of Superinten-  
 dents warrants & was sworn  
 thereunto as by reference to  
 the same will appear

The Treasurer filed  
 also written statements &  
 accounts in answer to the  
 call made on Friday last  
 upon him, responding to calls  
 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, & 7 & was sworn  
 thereunto, as by the same  
 will appear. The Milne &  
 Refiner furnished written  
 statements in answer to the  
 call made on Friday last  
 upon him & was sworn there-  
 unto, as by the same will appear

The Courier also furnished  
 written statements in answer  
 to the call made on Friday last  
 upon him & was sworn there-  
 unto as by the same will appear.

July 2.

The assayer filed in writing his answer, as by the requisition of the Commissioner called upon, to the written statement of the Master & H. Jones in relation to the official course of said assayer & said assayer was sworn therunto as by the same will appear.

The Commissioner here called upon the Treasurer to produce all the books from the Treasurer's & Weighers Office in answer to this case the following books were produced from the said Office as follows

1. Gold weighing book
2. Silver " "
3. Gold Registers
4. Silver " "

5 - 7 Memorandum books, wherein Memoranda are made of transfers to & from Master & Refiners & Coiners Office also Memoranda of assay coins sent to Philadelphia and a signature book

6. Warrant Books
7. Warrant books for or owing by accounts

July 2<sup>d</sup>8. Gold ~~pieces~~ certificate book

9. Silver " "

10. Bullion Journal

11. Weighers Book

There is another book described in the testimony under appellation of "ingravel weigher's book" but Mr. Dimitry states that he does not consider said book as appertaining to the Treasurer's Office. He refers for further illustration to his testimony on this subject.

12. Cash Book

13. Journal of ordinary accounts

14. Ledger. " " " "

15. Copy book of <sup>quarterly</sup> ~~quarterly~~ accounts

16. Letter book

17. A table book for calculating the value of bullion, after standard given by assay

18. 3 check books to wit: United States, Union & Commercial Banks.

Mr. Dimitry states that these are all the books kept in the Treasurer's & weighers Office - There is a Bullion Ledger sent from Philadelphia in which some entries have been made, the ruling not corresponding with the form and

July 2<sup>d</sup>.  
 from Philadelphia - also  
 there is another Bullion Ledger  
 purchased here, but in which  
 no entries have yet been made  
 (some of the headings however  
 are put) owing to want of  
 time, I not wishing to divert  
 from the former but from  
 Philadelphia without further  
 instructions.

Whereupon the Commissioners  
 requested the Treasurer to  
 cause to be made full & com-  
 plete duplicate copies of the  
 following to wit:

- I Copy of all entries in Silver  
 weighing book from 1<sup>st</sup>  
 April to 20<sup>th</sup> May 1839 in-  
 clusive, & being from depos-  
 -its No 68 to 166 inclusive
- II Copy from Silver Bullion  
 Register from 1<sup>st</sup> April to  
 20<sup>th</sup> May inclusive
- III Copy from Margin of  
 Silver Certificate Book  
 from Certificate 70 to 150  
 inclusive.
- IV A Copy from the Bullion  
 Journal from 21<sup>st</sup> March  
 to 31 April 1839.

July 2<sup>d</sup>

V. A copy from weighears Book  
of entries in account with  
Metter & Refiner from 1<sup>st</sup>  
April to 1<sup>st</sup> May 1839 inclu-  
sive.

VI. A copy of pages 2, 3, 4 & 5  
from the Book labelled  
Weighears Book & spoken of  
in the testimony under ap-  
pellation of original weigh-  
ers Book.

These Copies must  
be verified under oath of  
Treasurer & approved as true  
Copies by Mr. Masfwell & Mr.  
Bradford.

As these Copies are called  
for in duplicate, and the work  
will require considerable la-  
bour & is expected to be produced  
on Thursday night, the Super-  
intendent is requested to supply  
the Treasurer with Copyist  
during the interval allowed  
for compliance with this  
call & to authorize the pay-  
ment by the Treasurer of  
said Copyists compensa-  
tion.

The Metter & Refiner is  
requested to furnish for

July 2<sup>d</sup>

Thursday evening next full  
duplicate copies of all the ma-  
sters in his ledger account book  
from 1<sup>st</sup> April 1839 to 1<sup>st</sup> June  
inclusive to be verified under  
oath of Mr. Mayfield & approved  
as true copies by the Treasurer  
& Superintendent.

It is requested to  
furnish duplicate copies of  
his reports of assay for the  
month of April 1839, certified  
by him in like manner un-  
der oath & approved as true  
copies by the Treasurer &  
Mr. Mayfield.

Mr. Brown's exam-  
ination resumed by  
the Commissioner.

Has heard Mr. Tyler  
say that the Steam Engine  
of the Mint was badly made  
& that he, Tyler, could get  
up a much better one. That  
the present one was a pump  
of cast iron of a rough finish  
or without a proper finish.  
This engine was built by  
Buckley & <sup>Murphy</sup> ~~Buckley~~ <sup>of</sup> ~~Philadelphia~~ <sup>Philadelphia</sup> Tyler

Mr. Brown

July 2<sup>d</sup>

Thursday evening next full  
duplicate copies of all the ma-  
terials in his claim account book  
from 1<sup>st</sup> April 1839 to 1<sup>st</sup> June  
inclusive to be verified under  
oath of Mr. Mayfield & approved  
as true copies by the Treasurer  
& Superintendent.

Dr. Hort is requested to  
furnish duplicate copies of  
his reports of assay for the  
month of April 1839, certified  
by him in like manner un-  
der oath & approved as true  
copies by the Treasurer &  
Mr. Mayfield.

Mr. Brown's exam-  
ination resumed by  
the Commissioner.

Has heard Mr. Tyler  
say that the Steam Engine  
of the Mint was badly made  
& that he, Tyler, could get  
up a much better one. That  
the present one was a pump  
of cast iron of a rough finish  
or without a proper finish.  
This engine was built by  
Buckley & <sup>Murphy</sup> ~~Buckley~~ <sup>of</sup> ~~Philadelphia~~ <sup>Philadelphia</sup> - Tyler

Mr. Brown

Mr. Brown

July 2<sup>d</sup>

stated it was very imperfectly fitted & not suited for a Mint. and added, if I could persuade them to sell it, I could substitute one that would be an ornament to the Mint. he said he would have the Cyhinder surmounted with a brass plate, & would have the Mother's name superscribed & would get it made by Baldwin. Depoant believes Mr. Baldwin is Mr. Tyler's brother in law.

Mr. Tyler's disposition seemed to be, to let some one attend to the engine who did not know how to superintend it, as he Mr. Tyler was to be his own engineer, he appeared to desire to impress the men with an idea that he knew all about an engine, though witness thinks Tyler was incompetent himself to take charge of an engine. Depoant thought so, because he Tyler undertook to work the engine only with a starting

Mr. Brown

July 9<sup>th</sup>  
 bar. Just trying to pass  
 the Centre, Mr. Tyler came  
 near throwing the Cylinder  
 out of place. There was not  
 sufficient experience in  
 working it, shown, to avoid  
 the above danger. Moving  
 the valve the reverse way  
 from what he should have  
 done. Mr. Tyler & his brother  
 were both experimenting with  
 the engine when these mis-  
 takes were made. They were  
 alone in the room together  
 — DeForest was in the  
 Barber Room below. Could  
 see what they were doing  
 through the space where  
 the fly wheel worked —  
 DeForest is of opinion  
 that the Engine was a  
 good one. It was so con-  
 sidered by the persons who  
 have seen it in operation.  
 Mr. Tyler had a skele-  
 ton key for his convenience  
 to pass through the doors  
 of the different apartments  
 — he knows it would suit  
 the Treasurer's office — does  
 not know as to the doors

July 20  
out of Tyler's department -  
Has seen Mr. Tyler enter  
the Treasurer's Office with  
it - Does not know if the  
Treasurer's Clerks knew of  
it, but supposes at the  
time they did know it  
seeing him use this privi-  
lege - he made free use  
of it & had gone there when  
the Clerks were away.

July 2<sup>d</sup>

The following testimony  
of Mr. Zacharie was written by  
Mr. Zacharie himself

Collated

James W. Zacharie of  
the mercantile firm of J. W. Zacharie  
& Co. trading with Mexico says that his  
house, has at various periods received  
Gold & Silver bullion which he has de-  
posited for assay & coinage at the branch  
of the U. S. Mint at New Orleans, has  
always found the Officers attached there-  
to, civil & polite.

Some of his deposits of gold bullion  
mixed with silver, the assayers report upon  
his gold fell short more a thousand dollars  
of the Mexican assay, he afterwards learned  
from Mr. Anguilla that there had been  
more gold found in the bars than reported  
by the assayer, F. Hest, which if even  
their house claims, the gold had  
been assayed twice in Mexico and  
the owner Mr. J. P. Schetsell  
has expressed great dissatisfaction. He  
still expressed himself dissatisfied  
with the result as he said that  
the Mexican Assayers had too  
much of propensity to commit such  
blunders. He has heard a complaint of  
the Mint not delivering  
correctly.

# and on a recent visit to the mint  
after an argument with Mr. Hest, he  
made some applications

J. W. Zacharie

Mr. Packard

past July 3<sup>rd</sup>  
~~find~~ enough, & that several parcels of bullion, he has deposited & sold the Certificates of to several Banks, have not been redeemed although it has now been more than a year.

Examined on behalf of  
 W. Maxwell.

There has been a desire on the part of the public of New Orleans & a necessity to obtain the substitution of small coin for the small paper circulation under five dollars. The exchange of small change at this Mint is deemed here a measure of public convenience & of great utility.

As acquainted with the character of Mr. Maxwell the Master & Refiner & of Mr. Tyler the Cashier; & besides both of them assume of high reputation & industrious & attentive habits. Informant has often visited the Mint & has always found them attentively employed, has seen & that several times & found him industriously engaged <sup>in</sup> his duties, Informant always found the other Officers here & apparently engaged in

July 9.

their duties, which however as they lay in the charge of accounts & documents he did not pay so much attention, however heard of, or known any attempt on the part of Mr. Hopewell or Mr. Tyler in the public prints or otherwise to injure the New Orleans Mint.

By the Commissioner  
Department is of opinion is  
a merchant from information &  
views founded on the pursuit  
of his profession for 24 years  
New Orleans that extensive com-  
-age at this point would have  
a very beneficial effect upon  
the Commercial affairs of Lou-  
-isiana & the Southern Country.  
Department has large im-  
-portations now on their way from the interior  
of Mexico via Tampico & on  
the Red River, & also via Mota-  
-moras. Supposes about \$200,000.  
The price of cargoes has risen  
Coloans than in Mexico. Has  
transmitted by prohibiting  
Mexico their large amounts  
would find their way thence  
to New Orleans.

Mr. Jackson

Collater.

W. Fox

July 31 1839

Benjamin Forbush sworn.  
Examined by the Commissioner  
Was one of the contractors  
for building the Branch Mint  
at New Orleans - Mr. Tyler deposed  
to Deponent that the Locks on the  
doors at the Mint were not very  
good & said he had a key which  
would open any of them - he ex-  
hibited to deponent a skeleton  
Key. Deponent said he could  
make one of the same sort - an  
ordinary Key is easily conver-  
ted into a Key of this sort -  
Knows nothing further on the  
subject - The locks on the doors  
of the mint were good of the  
kind - does not know that  
Tyler assigned any reason  
for having made the skeleton  
Key - Thinks there were other  
persons present at the time of  
the above conversation with  
Tyler, perhaps several persons -  
the conversation occurred in  
the Treasurer's room - The  
conversation was addressed  
to deponent in an ordinary  
tone of voice - there was no  
secrecy about it, as deponent  
thought - the conversation he

Mr. Fox

Mr. Hornstead

July 3<sup>d</sup>  
thinks was about the time of  
the commencement of the operations  
of the mint - some time in 1838 -

He knows nothing of Mr. Lytle's  
qualifications, when Deponent has  
been at the mint. has generally seen  
Mr. Lytle here, attending appar-  
-ently to the business of his de-  
-partment.

Deponent on his visits to the  
mint does not recollect of seeing  
persons of suspicious appearance  
about the establishment -

Joseph B. Hornstead  
was sworn -

Deponent is a machinist - was  
first employed at the mint some-  
-time in November 1837. & so has  
service continued - was engaged in the  
coinage Department - The machinery  
was in pretty good condition when  
it first arrived from the north - as  
good as could be expected when  
Deponent arrived some part of it,  
such as the presses of milling ma-  
-chines were still in the boxes had  
to be set up - Deponent assist-  
-ed in settling up the coining  
presses - some parts of them were  
rusty & required rubbing, but they

Mr. Fox

Mr. Hornstead

July 3<sup>d</sup>  
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the commencement of the operations  
of the mint - some time in 1838 -

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it first arrived from the north - as  
good as could be expected when  
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such as the presses & milling ma-  
-chines were still in the boxes had  
to be set up - Deponent assist-  
-ed in settling up the coining  
presses - some parts of them were  
rusty & required rubbing, but they

Mr. Hamstead

July 3<sup>d</sup>  
 were however in very good order.  
 The triangle was afterwards  
 altered by Mr. Tyler. Pieces  
 of brass plate were placed  
 in the center of the triangle  
 of the large & small press;  
 This addition stiffened the  
 triangle, but did not alter  
 the original design— with  
 this addition the triangle works  
 very well. Deponent does not  
 know how it would have work-  
 ed before— thinks the work  
 thus put on the triangles stiff-  
 ened & must of course be an  
 advantage— The ball press—  
 it was reduced in the small  
 press— thinks the reduction  
 has been of no advantage—  
 does not know whether any  
 injury has accrued from this  
 change— is not able to say  
 how the crining press works now—  
 being in a different portion  
 of the Department— the draw  
 bench was altered by taking  
 out rolls placed for the chain  
 to roll on & by substituting  
 plank— there was no other alter-  
 ation— the draw bench  
 now works very well— not

Mr. Armstrong

July 3<sup>d</sup>  
 having seen the draw bench  
 work before, Defendant cannot  
 say whether the alterations  
 was a beneficial one or other-  
 wise — There has been an  
 alteration made to the Steam  
 Engine by Mr. Pyle — it was  
 by attaching the eccentric with  
 the motion, taking out the  
 one that was in before & put-  
 ting in a different one —  
 does not know what was the  
 object of the change — Thinks  
 the engine does not work  
 very well — Has perceived no  
 change in the working of the  
 Engine, which works the same  
 as before — The engine works  
 very badly — it whetted badly  
 at first — it was afterwards  
 repaired & does not think the  
 repairs improved it — The forma-  
 tion had settled & was too  
 run down & readjusted —  
 attributed its working badly  
 at first to the settling —  
 does not know to what to at-  
 tribute its working badly now —  
 thinks the Engine has been used  
 carelessly —  
 Mr. Pyle made some al-

M. Marmet

July 3<sup>d</sup>  
 alterations to the cutting machine— there was an alteration in the joint which connects the slide with the connecting rod— The machine now works well— In one of the Cutting machines there was an alteration as to holding the seal down— it is not better now than before— there were no other alterations to the cutting machines—

There was a change made to the coining press as to raising the ball & socket— a piece of steel was placed on the stake to raise the ball from the socket when it descended— does not know the effect of it— the object was to raise the ball from the socket— thinks this plan would be injurious as to the permanency of the ball & socket, as the bearing would be on the piece of steel— by permanency witness means the solidity of the dieing lot— as to the friction of the ball & socket, does not think it would be greater or less from this change— thinks there would

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July 3<sup>d</sup>

be no difference as to the wear-  
-ing of the ball & socket.

The coining department was  
ready for actual operation  
about last of May or 1<sup>st</sup> June  
1838—thinks in the preparation  
of this department more time  
was consumed than was ne-  
-cessary—say two or three  
months—machinists were em-  
-ployed in lightening and  
aligning the arch of the press—  
thinks this lightening is was  
to keep the men employed while  
Mr Tyler could arrange such  
alterations as he thought nec-  
-essary—Mr Tyler did not ap-  
-pear anxious to get his depart-  
-ment ready.

Being asked what is his opinion  
of Mr Tyler's capacity & acquire-  
-ments as a machinist?

Thinks Mr Tyler has some pe-  
-culiar ideas—

Thinks he has a knowledge of  
machinery— that his theoretical  
knowledge of machinery is very  
good— but thinks him not a  
competent man for the place he  
holds—

Is not much acquainted with

Mr Armstrong

Mr. Karmichael

July 3<sup>d</sup>

Mr Brown's capacity & acquirements, but has seen some of his work which was very good.

Thinks Mr Denney a superior workman — as good as any he has ever worked with during an experience of 8 years — better than any he has ever worked with at his age.

Quest. Proposed by Mr. Dyer was not the object of Mr. Dyer's change in the coming press with regard to the Ball & Socket, to make it a self-oiling machine?

Ans. Does not know whether it was or not nor whether it had that effect or not.

There has been a quarrel between Mr. Dyer & Brown, but does not know whether they are on good or bad terms now.

The ball & socket in an injured condition being exhibited to witness, thinks it had not been kept well oiled — thinks it would not have become injured, if it had been well oiled — thinks the steel piece according to

Mr. Hamstead.

July 2d

Mr. Tyler's plan, would have the effect of oiling the worn surface of the ball & socket, if the steel piece produced the effect of raising the ball, but does not know whether the steel piece so raised it or not - the last time Dependent saw the (ball now at work) dim puffs, the ball did not appear worn - in that press Mr. Tyler's plan of oiling is <sup>in use</sup> ~~in use~~ - does not recollect how long it has been in use - it was very seldom Dependent could get into the room where it was, unless he stole his way in, & whenever Mr. Tyler happened to come in when Dependent was there, he would say something to Dependent to give him to understand that he must go to some other part of the building - Dependent's work was in some other portion of the Department - Dependent & Mr. Tyler have not had any difficulty but have had little to say to each other.

# RG104 Entry 24B

July 3, 1839

Abstract of Testimony  
by

G. H. Moore, Blacksmith;  
Felix Garcia, Independent Engineer;  
Nathan Clark, Machinist;  
Sassire, ex Treasurer's Clerk;  
William P. Hort, Assayer;  
Asa Humphreys, Assistant M&R;  
William D. Johnson, Workman Coining  
Department

9

July 3<sup>rd</sup>

Mr. C. W. Morse was sworn  
 as a blacksmith in  
 the Mint - is about 23 years  
 of age - has been employed  
 in the Mint since the latter  
 part of 1837 - was acquainted  
 with Mr. ~~Denny~~ <sup>Denny</sup> \* Mr. Tyler  
 informed Dependent that Mr.  
 Denny would not sign a  
 contract to give him, Tyler,  
 a compensation, he thinks  
 of \$500, for instructing Den-  
 ny & mechanics. Mr. Tyler  
 affirmed this is one of the  
 reasons for Denny's removal.  
 Dependent has read the con-  
 tract referred to. Mr. Tyler  
 told Dependent that Denny  
 intended to bring charges  
 against him, Tyler, when  
 he got to Philadelphia -  
 & Mr. Tyler remarked that  
 Denny had better not do  
 so, as if Denny intended to  
 start business in Phila-  
 delphia, he, Tyler, would  
 be able to give him some  
 work, as he would rather  
 trust Denny with work  
 than Mr. Marshall.

\* Mr. Denny was sworn  
 as a blacksmith in the Mint

C. W. Morse

Mr. Moore

July 3<sup>d</sup>

When a contract in pencil be-  
ing exhibited, Mr. Tyler admit-  
ted it to be his handwriting—  
Deponent on being shown said  
contract, says he believed it  
to be the same referred to above—  
Has heard Mr. Tyler observe that  
Mr. Patterson would support him—  
also that Mr. Bradford would  
have to go to Bayou Lafourche, by  
which Deponent supposed he  
meant Mr. Bradford would have  
to leave his present station—  
he stated at the same time that  
he did not know what the conse-  
quences would be as to himself  
or substantially as that effect—  
Mr. Tyler on one occasion got  
deponent to come to the weigh-  
ing room to assist in carry-  
ing some clippings of planchets  
that were there, and bars of  
silver & strips— They were weigh-  
ed by deponent, carried them  
on the truck to the miller of  
Refiner's vault— This was some  
time last season— This was  
the only time that Deponent  
has been so employed— Mr.  
Lilly, Mr. Tyler & Mr. Maxwell,  
as he believed Mr. Russell,

Macdonald  
Mr. Garcia

July 3<sup>rd</sup> 11  
were present at the time — after  
Lilly was then weighing Clerk  
of Mr. Basset was out of the mel-  
ter & Defuria's men — it was  
during the business hours of  
the mint — does not know whe-  
ther the planchets were round  
planchets or not — Mr. Lilly mark-  
ed down the weight in a book af-  
ter first putting it down on  
paper. witness supposes the  
book was there for that purpose —  
the windows of the room were  
hoisted & the doors open — Does  
not know whether any partic-  
ular person is generally em-  
ployed to carry bullion <sup>off</sup>  
from the weigh room to melt-  
ing room & coin<sup>ing</sup> room

Julio Garcia was sworn  
to president of Draining com-  
pany — is acquainted with  
Mr. Brown & Engineer — he is  
in the employ of said company  
as engineer & machinist — has  
had an opportunity of making  
himself acquainted with Mr.  
Brown's capacity & acquain-  
tance on such subjects —  
the business in which he

Macdonald  
Mr. Garcia

July 3<sup>rd</sup> 11  
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Lilly was then weighing Clerk  
of Mr. Basset was out of the mel-  
ter & Defuria's men — it was  
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ed down the weight in a book af-  
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Brown's capacity & acquain-  
tance on such subjects —  
the business in which he

Mr. Garcia

July 3<sup>d</sup> 18  
 was engaged by said company  
 requested changes & improvements  
 that could only be made by a  
 practical & good engineer—  
 Considering Mr. Brown a good  
 engineer, & what he has seen of  
 his work induces him to be-  
 lieve him to be as above stated—  
 Is not able to speak of his scien-  
 tific acquirements—Deponent's  
 observations induce him to believe  
 that Brown possesses the theo-  
 retical knowledge & practical ex-  
 perience suited to his profession—  
 Deponent has some acquaint-  
 -ance with the science of Me-  
 -chanics—  
 Examined on behalf of  
 Mr. Bradford—  
 Deponent is President of the  
 Senate of Louisiana—has  
 turned his attention to the  
 subject of Mechanics & has  
 made some improvements  
 on his plantation in the works  
 of his sugar house, particu-  
 -larly as to the clarification of  
 sugar, economy of fuel &c—  
 the apparatus of deponent is  
 now much used in Louisiana  
 & the Legislature have given

Mr Garcia  
Mr Clark

July 3<sup>rd</sup>

Deponent, an exclusive priv-  
ilege for it -

Mr Garcia was requested by  
the commissioner to visit  
the coming department on  
Friday next at 10 o'clock  
to present in writing such  
observations on the state of  
the machinery in that depart-  
ment, its improvements, &c. as  
he might deem desirable  
& important -

Mr Clark

Nathan Clark was sworn.  
Deponent is a machinist  
has been here since February  
1838. has had charge of the  
Engine; but had not now  
left the Engine on 1<sup>st</sup> July  
1838, is now finishing in the  
machinery shop - while depo-  
nent had charge of the Engine  
no alterations were made  
in it - while deponent had  
charge of the Engine it opera-  
ted well - considers the  
Engine as at present out of  
order - probably in conse-  
quence of its being stayed too  
tight, causing it to chafe -  
Does not think the Engine

Mr Garcia  
Mr Clark

July 3<sup>rd</sup> 1838  
Deponent, an exclusive pro-  
-prietor for it -  
Mr Garcia was requested by  
the commissioner to visit  
the coming department on  
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machinery shop - while depo-  
-nent had charge of the Engine  
no alterations were made  
in it - while deponent had  
charge of the Engine it opera-  
-ted well - considers the  
Engine as at present out of  
order - probably in conse-  
-quence of its being keyed too  
tight, causing it to chafe -  
Does not think the Engine

Mr Clark

Mr. Clark

July 30<sup>th</sup>  
has been treated this season  
as it should have been to  
preserve it. The fires this  
season have been covered  
on closing business with  
the ashes, to keep the fire for  
next morning — that would  
also keep the water hot, so that  
the steam could be more eas-  
ily obtained the next morn-  
ing —

Considering ~~Mr. Tyler~~ Mr. Tyler  
capable of performing the du-  
ties of his office — Mr. Tyler's  
conduct towards him gener-  
ally has been proper, but he  
has been occasionally fractious  
towards deponent.

Being asked what he considered  
the three reasons of the difficul-  
ties which have taken place  
between Mr. Tyler & some  
of his workmen from time  
to time, he says that Mr.  
Tyler was a very particularly  
strict man about his work  
frigidious in having it done  
in any other way that suited  
his views — that O'Conney who  
left here last winter was in de-  
ponent's opinion one of the best

Mr. Park

Mr. Lassie

July 30  
workmen deponent has never known — that he does not pretend to say such was the reason, but he has sometimes conjectured that Tyler may have been jealous of Denney's work — that deponent leaves to the other men to explain the reasons why they have had dissatisfaction — Mr Tyler's conduct towards deponent has been generally very handsome — Being asked which of the two men, Denney or Tyler he considers most competent for the place of criner, he says that he does not consider himself sufficiently acquainted with all the subjects of the crin<sup>ing</sup> department to be a competent Judge of this question.

Mr Lassie was sworn — was clerk in Treasurers office from 1<sup>st</sup> April 1838 to 1<sup>st</sup> week of January 1839 — the conduct of the criner of Mellen & Co. criner towards the officers in the Treasurers office has been ungentlemanly

Mr. Park

Mr. Lassie

July 30  
workmen deponent has never known — that he does not pretend to say such was the reason, but he has sometimes conjectured that Tyler may have been jealous of Denney's work — that deponent leaves to the other men to explain the reasons why they have had dissatisfaction — Mr Tyler's conduct towards deponent has been generally very handsome — Being asked which of the two men, Denney or Tyler he considers most competent for the place of Criner, he says that he does not consider himself sufficiently acquainted with all the subjects of the Criner<sup>ies</sup> department to be a competent Judge of this question.

Mr Lassie was sworn — was Clerk in Treasurers office from 1<sup>st</sup> April 1838 to 1<sup>st</sup> week of January 1839 — the conduct of the Criner of Miller & Criner towards the officers in the Treasurers office has been ungentlemanly

Mr. Clark

Mr. Lasure

July 3<sup>d</sup>  
 Job bearing fruiting—  
 on one occasion, in spring  
 of 1838. Mr. Daniel being a  
 clerk in Treasurer's office was  
 at work there. Mr. Postall  
 & Dr. Hort were sitting at  
 the porch with witnesses; the  
 porter came & said he had  
 received orders from Mr.  
 Tyler to shut the door at  
 six o'clock. Mr. Postall  
 said he did not think pro-  
 per to retire at that moment;  
 then Mr. Tyler came & told  
 Mr. Postall the door must  
 be shut. Mr. Postall, who  
 is an old man, then retired.  
 Mr. Tyler seemed on all  
 occasions disposed to as-  
 sume the authority of su-  
 perintendent— In July  
 1838, on opening the Treasur-  
 er's office in the morning,  
 he observed that some bo-  
 dy must have been in  
 the office from papers being  
 displaced in the desk &  
 by finding the door from  
 the Treasurer's Office to weigh-  
 ing room open in the morn-  
 ing— these circumstances

Mr. Lawrence

July 3<sup>d</sup> 17  
 occurred repeatedly—Informant  
 apprised Mr. Bradford of  
 it who at first thought it  
 was Informant's neglect but  
 after Informant assured him  
 that he was careful about  
 shutting the door and arran-  
 ging his papers—Mr. Brad-  
 ford said he would use all  
 his efforts to find out who  
 it was—But Mr. Bradford  
 did not succeed—About the  
 1<sup>st</sup> of August Mr. Tyler & Mr.  
 Maywelle with the porter paid  
 off the workmen left the Mint  
 and these circumstances then  
 ceased—During the recess Mr.  
 Fox came to settle an account  
 & spoke to witness of Mr. Tyler's  
 having a skeleton key—Wit-  
 ness informed Mr. Bradford  
 of this, & Mr. Bradford had  
 the lock changed to prevent  
 the use of a skeleton key

Mr. Bradford had a key  
 that opened the Treasurer's  
 Office, but does not know  
 whether it would open other  
 offices—has never known or  
 persons of doubtful appear-  
 ance to be permitted to be

July 3d

18

about the mint - Defendant  
being asked to state his opinion  
of the competency, efficien-  
cy & diligence of the officers  
of the mint - Answers as fol-  
lows -

I. The Superintendent - Considers  
him competent & zealous &  
courteous to the officers & persons  
transacting business here.

II The Treasurer - Consider  
ed him answering this ques-  
tion.

III The Mitter & Refiner -

Does not consider him-  
self a judge of his competency  
- Considers him diligent  
so far as he had trans-  
actions with Treasurer's  
office connected with  
his own department - Con-  
siders that he led persons  
in the Treasurer's office  
astray before the instinc-  
tions came from Phila-  
delphia.

IV The Coiner.

Cannot judge of his com-  
petency, but should suppose  
from the amount coined  
he had not been diligent

W. L. Linn

July 1<sup>st</sup>  
and faithful in the performance  
of his duties.

V The assayer

Is not able to judge of Dr.  
Hort's ~~Efficiency~~ <sup>Efficiency</sup> but he  
was very diligent in the  
performance of his duties  
& courteous in his behavior  
to the other officers.

Dr. Hort's Examination  
resumed.

Detained the other night  
that I believed Mr. Tyler to  
be competent to perform the  
duties of coin in this in-  
stitution, I now say or affirm  
that his conduct has been  
highly insulting & open over-  
reaching & that he has assumed  
the authority of the Superin-  
tendent claiming the right  
to direct officers & clerks &  
every body belonging to the  
Mint as he pleased. I had  
occasion to go down to the  
rear of the building about  
daybreak & my attention was  
attracted by the peculiar sharp  
sound of high steam, so  
much so as to alarm me for

Mr. Laforet

Dr. Hort

July 1<sup>st</sup>  
and faithful in the performance  
of his duties.

V The assayer

Is not able to judge of Dr  
Hort's ~~Efficiency~~ <sup>Competency</sup> but he  
was very diligent in the  
performance of his duties  
& courteous in his behavior  
to the other officers.

Dr Hort's Examination  
resumed.

Detained the other night  
that I believed Mr. Tyler to  
be competent to perform the  
duties of coin in this in-  
stitution, I now say or affirm  
that his conduct has been  
highly insulting & open over-  
reaching & that he has assumed  
the authority of the Superin-  
tendent claiming the right  
to direct officers & clerks &  
every body belonging to the  
Mint as he pleased. I had  
occasion to go down to the  
rear of the building about  
daybreak & my attention was  
attracted by the peculiar sharp  
sound of high steam, so  
much so as to alarm me for

Mr. Laforet

Dr Hort

July 7<sup>th</sup>

20

consequences as no workmen were about the mint, I looked thro' the window of the boiler-room & saw an intensely hot fire in the boilers. I believe that the fire had been covered up at night but that it had burned thro' the ashes, & hearing no steam blowing off through the escape pipe I thought the boilers were in danger of explosion & mentioned it to Mr. Bradford. As to the precise time, day or hour, that I mentioned the circumstance to Mr. Bradford I do not recollect, but it was shortly after. I do not recollect to have mentioned it to any other person on the day that it happened, though I probably might have done so. This occurred within the last 3 months.

Wm. D. Johnson was sworn

On behalf of Mr. Bradford.

Last year I was in the

O. W. Hart

W. D. Johnson

July 7<sup>th</sup>

20

consequences as no workmen were about the mint, I looked thro' the window of the boiler-room & saw an intensely hot fire in the boilers. I believe that the fire had been covered up at night but that it had burned thro' the ashes, & hearing no steam blowing off through the escape pipe I thought the boilers were in danger of explosion & mentioned it to Mr. Bradford. As to the precise time, day or hour, that I mentioned the circumstance to Mr. Bradford I do not recollect, but it was shortly after. I do not recollect to have mentioned it to any other person on the day that it happened, though I probably might have done so. This occurred within the last 3 months.

Wm. D. Johnson was sworn

On behalf of Mr. Bradford.

Last year I was in the

O. H. Hunt.

W. D. Johnson

July 1<sup>st</sup>

rolling room after the mint  
went into operation. This year  
I have been in the rolling room,  
Blacksmith's room, Machine  
Shop, counting room, weigh-  
ing room, Mr. Tyler's rooms  
in the building White washing.

I think Mr. Tyler con-  
duct towards the men under  
his charge very improper—  
I have been induced to form  
this opinion from his treat-  
ments to the different men.

I do not think him capable  
of filling the station he has.  
I do not think him capable  
of managing a number of  
men under his orders.

On behalf of Mr. Tyler.  
Mr. Tyler docked off my  
wages—I have applied to  
Mr. Tyler to increase my  
wages & he has refused to do  
so. The first time I asked  
him for a removal from my  
station, he granted it to me  
he told me at the time that  
he had placed a man in  
that situation for the pres-  
ent; about as near as I can  
recall it that pass on for

Mr. Johnson

July 1<sup>st</sup>

22

about ~~three~~ days - I thought it was then time to know something about it, I mentioned it to him then to know when I was to go - It appears that at that time he had altered his notion, he said then he believed he would not make a change it would be to his advantage to keep me where I was. <sup>James</sup> once called by Mr Tyler into the weighing room to assist in weighing ingots, about 11 days or 2 weeks ago.

On Recommendation of  
Mr. Humphreys resumed

I am now & have for 15 months been engaged in the separating room, except when on some occasions I have been called into the melting room.

Quest. State if Silver after having been cast into ingots for coinage has ever been separated by the Melted & refined & the Gold taken there from & if so in how many instances.

Mr. Johnson

Mr. Humphreys

July 1<sup>st</sup>

22

about ~~three~~ days - I thought it was then time to know something about it, I mentioned it to him then to know when I was to go - It appears that at that time he had altered his notion, he said then he believed he would not make a change it would be to his advantage to keep me where I was - <sup>James</sup> once called by Mr Tyler into the weighing room to assist in weighing ingots, about 11 days or 2 weeks ago

On Examination of Mr. Humphreys's resumed

I am now & have for 15 months been engaged in the separating room, except when on some occasions I have been called into the melting room.

Quest. State if Silver after having been cast into ingots for coinage has ever been separated by the better & the finer & the Gold taken there from & if so in how many instances.

Mr. Johnson

Mr. Humphreys

July 31.

23

Ans. There have been such instances & I think according to the best of my recollection three different times. The first time was shortly afterwards the operations of the Mint were commenced. The other times since Nov<sup>r</sup> last, perhaps in January, what made me notice there had been a mistake in the Miller's room was the bad manner in which the Silver worked in the separating room. When there is copper in the Silver it works up into the bottles in the separating room. I discovered that the Silver had been alloyed for in the manner in which it was held up in the bottles. By these means I ascertained there had been a mistake in the Miller's room. I asked Mr. Maywell if the Silver had been cast into Ingots, & ascertained it to be a fact.

Quest. State how many of or the are generally

Wm. H. Humphreys

July 30<sup>th</sup>

contained in a melt of  
silver for Ingots?

Ans. I do not know the  
exact weight of the Dollar  
Ingots which I think we  
cast at that time, but we  
have commonly from 40  
to 48 in a melt. I never  
weighed one of the Ingots  
but I suppose they weigh  
5 lbs.

On Behalf of Mr.

Magwell

Quest. How many times  
have you applied to Mr.  
Magwell to know whether  
the ballion has been melted  
into Ingots, previous to  
the appearance you speak  
of?

Ans. I think but once - this  
I think was the second time  
- The first time we separa-  
ted silver that contained  
nothing probably but gold,  
it worked well in the bottles  
but from the others being  
alloyed with copper I was  
dissuaded & was told by Mr  
Magwell without as being  
him that the silver was

Mr. Thompson

July 9<sup>th</sup>

25

were washing had been  
Ingots, that was the first  
of the two that had been  
alloyed according to the  
best of my recollection—  
there was gold separated  
from the silver each of these  
times.

Quet. Do you know whether  
or there is not frequently  
gold separated from alloyed  
silver?

Ans. There ought not to  
be, if there is— There has  
been in the two instances I  
speak of— There should not  
be gold in silver alloyed  
for silver coins to what  
I mean.

Quet. Is there not fre-  
quently gold found in al-  
loyed silver other than of  
standard fineness?

Ans. Probably there may  
be, where silver comes  
with gold in it, less than  
1/5.

Quet. Does it not frequently  
happen that silver is melted into in-  
gots before it is rolled for  
separation.

Mr. Humphreys

July 3<sup>d</sup> 26

Ans. More had it rolled  
but three times since I  
have been in the mint, to  
my knowledge. It was  
blown through ignorance  
or mistake both of the last  
times.

Examination of M.<sup>r</sup>  
Lassire resumed.

On behalf of M.<sup>r</sup>

Maywell.

Quat. Did you not short-  
ly before you left the mint  
deliver to the Auditor &  
Refiner a report of Silver  
to be melted which con-  
tained Gold, but which was  
not so marked or noted on  
the report?

Ans. No. I never gave any  
reports to the Auditor &  
Refiner. He came &  
generally helped himself from  
the Treasurer's armory. In  
the first days of January  
W. Maywell came in the  
Treasurer's office whilst I  
was counting dimes. Messrs  
Bradford & Forstall were  
in the office at the time.  
W. Maywell asked me if

Examination of  
M.<sup>r</sup> Lassire

July 3<sup>d</sup> 26

Ans. More had it rolled  
but three times since I  
have been in the mint, to  
my knowledge. It was  
blown through ignorance  
or mistake both of the last  
times.

Examination of M.<sup>r</sup>  
Sassire resumed.

On behalf of M.<sup>r</sup>

Maywell.

Quat. Did you not short-  
ly before you left the mint  
deliver to the Auditor &  
Refiner a report of Silver  
to be melted which con-  
tained Gold, but which was  
not so marked or noted on  
the report?

Ans. No. I never gave any  
reports to the Auditor &  
Refiner. He came &  
generally helped himself from  
the Treasurer's armory. In  
the first days of January  
W. Maywell came in the  
Treasurer's office whilst I  
was counting dimes. Messrs  
Bradford & Forstall were  
in the office at the time.  
W. Maywell asked me if

Thompson &  
Sassire

Mr. Green

July 30<sup>th</sup> 27  
 the deposit of silver of  
 Legard did not contain  
 Gold (this was the first time  
 that he ever questioned me  
 about any thing of the kind)  
 I answered him if yes, I left  
 off counting the dimes to  
 hand him the report, but  
 he immediately left the  
 room - Next day Messrs  
 Bradford & Forbath being  
 again in the office Mr.  
 Maxwell came in and  
 asked me if I had not told  
 him the day previous that  
 only the two last numbers  
 of said deposits contained  
 Gold, I answered him no,  
 that I had told him that  
 there was Silver contain-  
 ing Gold, but did not tell  
 him what N<sup>os</sup> as I did  
 not remember, I imme-  
 diately went & got the re-  
 port & handed it to him - He  
 said that there were more  
 N<sup>os</sup> containing gold - he  
 then got in a passion, & said  
 that I had told him so, which  
 I positively denied - It has  
 always been my opinion since

July 9<sup>th</sup>

28

What trying having found  
 that he had made a mis-  
 take he wished to throw  
 the blame on me, Mr. Hay-  
 well & I have had a quar-  
 rel on that occasion &  
 we have not since spoken.  
 Quest. Please to recollect  
 if you did not deliver  
 on that occasion a paper  
 to Mr. Haywell with the  
 said bullion on which  
 was marked the gross  
 weight or standard weight  
 without reference of there  
 being gold in it.  
 Ans. I do not remember.

Wm. Lawrence

# RG104 Entry 24B

July 4, 1839

Abstract of Testimony  
by

David Bradford, Superintendent;  
Samuel McHenry, Carpenter;  
Charles Scheide, Press Operator &  
Maintenance;  
Charles C. Lyon, Whitening Room;  
John Moody, Annealing Room;  
Owen D. Bird, Rolling Room;  
George Hooper, Workman;  
Lapere, Weigh Clerk;  
Rufus Tyler, Chief Coiner;  
Commissioner's Statement

(5)

18

18

Collected

July 4<sup>th</sup> 1879

Mr. Bradford

Examined on behalf of

Mr. ~~Lyons~~ Maywell

Did not the difficulties between the assayer & Mother & Refiner originate mainly from Mr. Maywell reporting his having ascertained that there was more Gold in certain deposits of bullion than the assayer had supposed, & has not the assayer expected himself to prevent your distributing the same among, Lizardi, Eschauri & Exchange bank, some or all of them whom Mr. Maywell supposed had deposited the bullion which had been found. And the difficulties between the assayer & Mother & Refiner originated in the assayer's rejecting a great number of units of bullion the first that were cast at this Mint. ~~He~~ ~~assayer~~ The assayer has not expected himself to prevent my distributing the pretended assay which Dr. Hart never acknowledged to exist and contended that there was no such assay.

Mr. Bradford

July 4<sup>th</sup>  
On behalf of Dr. Hort.

Did or did not Dr. Hort say in talking of such excess, that whether such excess existed or not, it had not been demonstrated to him, Dr. Hort Ans. Yes he did - Mr. Maywell furnished an account which deponent exhibited to the Doctor - The said account is now produced by deponent & filed - Dr. Hort always recommended that the Gold should be separated from the Silver, cast into nuggets <sup>alms</sup> & to the Treasurer regularly, as the only way of ascertaining whether there was or was not an excess which has not been done.

Quest. Did Dr. Hort contend that an excess in Gold had not been demonstrated to him or only that it had not been demonstrated to whom such excess belonged.

Ans. He always denied it to me that there was any such excess in his opinion & said that he had not believed in the assertions of the Mint.

Mr. Maywell

W. H. H. H.

July 4<sup>th</sup>

Refiner, Look at the paper now exhibited, headed Silver Bullion deposited by Lazard & Co. I say in whose handwriting it is?

Ans. A great deal of it is in Depo's handwriting, & some of the figures are in Lazard's handwriting. Depo's commenced, copied it from the weighing book & copied down to No. 7 on the left hand column the balance is in Lazard's figures the Clerk of the Treasury's office - thinks Lazard copied it by Depo's direction. Does not know the meaning of the figures therein as follows.

\$10-1925.98

11 612.82

nor why said figures were put there - This paper was delivered to Mr. Maxwell about the 1<sup>st</sup> week of January in a day or two after a difficulty arose about this paper between Lazard & Maxwell - The difficulty was about the gold in

July 4<sup>th</sup>

4

the Ligardi deposit

Mr. Bradford a few days before giving the above Report to Mr. Maywell had told him that he must not take the weighing book to his room, but that he could have access to the book at the Treasurer's office, by asking the Clerk, but that he must not go near it otherwise. Supposing he told Maywell he might have copies from it, as he gave such an order a few days afterwards.

Examination on behalf of Mr. Tyler by the Commissioner.

There having been presented here, Sunday copies of protest of Mint certificates for small sums such as the three protested at the request of the Commercial Bank for \$47<sup>00</sup>/<sub>100</sub>, for \$195<sup>00</sup>/<sub>100</sub> & for \$345<sup>00</sup>/<sub>100</sub> will you state whether these certificates could not have been paid from the funds on hand without necessity of protest & if not, why?

Mr. Bradford

July 14<sup>th</sup>

Ans. Believing they could not  
~~be paid~~, that the Carrier  
 had not furnished the requi-  
 site funds.

Quest. Were there not twenty  
 times their amount paid to  
 depositors subsequent to those  
 stated in said three Certif-  
 icates, that is to say to later  
 depositors, & were not such  
 payments made prior to  
 said protests at the request of  
 the Commercial Banks.

Ans. That he does not know  
 as to all these facts, & refers  
 for answer thereto, to the  
 Treasurer's Clerk & the books  
 of the Mint.

Quest. Did you frequently  
 refer depositors or recommend  
 the Treasurer to refer depos-  
 itors to the Carrier, when  
 they applied for payment  
 of certificates?

Ans. Does not recollect of re-  
 ferring the depositors to the  
 Carrier himself, but requested  
 Mr. Forstall to ask the carrier  
 when coins would be supplied

W. Bradford

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19

18.

Collected.

July 4<sup>th</sup>

Examination of Samuel  
M<sup>r</sup>. Henry — was sworn.  
Employed in the  
Mint generally at Carpenter's  
work — has occasionally  
worked in the Coiners Office  
— Worked at the Mint from  
16<sup>th</sup> ~~March~~ <sup>November</sup> 1837 to 15<sup>th</sup> July  
1838. — As far as Deponent has  
observed the official con-  
duct of the Coiner, has always  
found him diligent in his  
duties — As regards the men  
in the Coiner's department, the  
men have always been kept at  
work when there was work  
for their particular <sup>branch</sup> Believes  
the machinery in the depart-  
ment of the Coiner is kept in  
as good order as possible —  
Lives M<sup>r</sup>. Tyler to be a first  
rate mechanic — Deponent has  
been acquainted with the sub-  
ject of machinery from the  
age of 15 to 35 years — has been  
a millwright — has also been  
employed in repairs of machi-  
nery in the Mint at Philadel-  
phia. Since 1<sup>st</sup> of January 1839  
Deponent has been sworn or  
has in the habit of passing

Mr. M<sup>r</sup>. Henry

Mr. M. C. Henry

2  
A

July 14<sup>th</sup>  
 through the Carriers depart-  
 ment. The men appeared to  
 be kept at work. Mr. Tyler  
 has always treated Depoent  
 well & Depoent has not  
 heard complaints from the  
 other workmen except one  
 man who had a difficulty  
 about wages, named Johnson  
 & another named Hornstead  
 with Mr. Brown because  
 he endeavored to persuade  
 Depoent & some other men  
 to go with him to the North  
 promising to pay their pas-  
 sages from Pittsburg to Phil-  
 adelphia - he told witnesses  
 that Tyler wished to get rid  
 of the Philadelphia men, but  
 Depoent has never seen any  
 such disposition evince on  
 the part of Mr. Tyler, Mr.  
 Tyler having always treated  
 Depoent well - Depoent's  
 engagement was up to 15<sup>th</sup>  
 July Brown wished Depoent  
 to leave with him on the 1<sup>st</sup>  
 of July - held out various induc-  
 ements to Depoent to go away  
 from the Mint - Brown made  
 various statements to Depoent

July 14<sup>th</sup>

about Mr. Tyler, so he did not know whether to believe him or not, as Mr. Tyler denied them. Believes Mr. Tyler an industrious man - Has heard Brown say that Tyler was one of the best mechanics he ever saw. And that he had learned a great deal from him; Tyler, about drawing. He told Depomont that if Depomont did Tyler's work exactly as he wanted it, Depomont would have no difficulty, but that Tyler was a very particular man about having work done according to his orders. Before Brown's dismissal, Brown told me that when the power presses were started in Philadelphia they could not get them to work properly - that Mr. Tyler was called upon who passed his opinion upon them, of which opinion Mr. Peale did not seem to approve & that finally the <sup>presses</sup> were altered somewhat, in accordance with Mr. Tyler's opinion after which Brown said to Depomont they answered very well. Brown

W. M. C. Hamy

July 4<sup>th</sup>

4

told witness the new Colons  
Coining presses would <sup>have</sup> to go through  
the same changes before they  
would work well. Thinks Brown  
said the triangles would have  
to be stiffened. Has never  
heard Mr. Tyler speak disre-  
spectfully as to the officers of  
the Mint as to their being  
Frenchmen. The whole of the  
machinery sent from Philadel-  
phia has been put into opera-  
tion except the quarter dollar  
press, which is now in the  
machinist's shop. Believes this  
last machine is not a triangle,  
When men in the Coining de-  
partment had not sufficient  
work in their particular branch,  
they have been kept busy in  
other branches about the Coiner's  
department. Mr. Tyler had a  
skeleton key. Has seen him  
use it in his own department  
but it was probably & without  
consentment. Has not seen  
him use it for the doors of  
the other officers. Believes Mr.  
Bradford had a skeleton key,  
with which he could open  
the Coining room door, for

Mr. M. C. Tenny.

5.  
21

July 11<sup>th</sup>  
 which purpose he has seen  
 Mr. Bradford use it - has not  
 seen him open other doors  
 with it. Mr. Bradford was  
 absent for some time, passing  
 to & from & forwards at the  
 mint, after the coin came  
 from Philadelphia in December  
 1837, and during his absence, Tyler  
 appeared & principally charged  
 with the works about the  
 Mint & in the preparations of  
 his own department and of  
 some other rooms, for instance  
 the management of the weigh room  
 connected with the Treasurer's  
 Office. When he has seen Mr.  
 Bradford & Mr. Tyler together  
 Mr. Bradford appeared to leave  
 these arrangements to Mr. Tyler's  
 judgment, at the time just re-  
 ferred to.

Examination on behalf  
 of Mr. Bradford.

Does not know at what  
 time the coining commenced.  
 Deponent arrived in December  
 1837 & left in July, 1838. Depon-  
 ent has been fully engaged  
 all the time. Deponent received  
 last month \$113<sup>00</sup> for his

Mr. McHenry

July 18<sup>th</sup> 6  
 computation worked in the Carpenter's shop in the morning & worked after 4 P.M., till 6 P.M. I allowed 3<sup>00</sup> per day for his regular allowance 28 working days are counted to the month. Has in some preceding months received more than in the last month for extra work - Cannot specify the months particularly - the most he has received per month for extra work was sometime in last year. Does not consider himself sufficiently acquainted with the subject to ~~form~~ <sup>form</sup> an accurate opinion as to the coining <sup>process</sup> ~~process~~ or things of that kind.

Being asked whether he thought Brown's object in asking to go to Philadelphia was to employ him.

Ans. He does not think it was so; my opinion of his object was that Brown thought Depomont a good workman & wished to get Depomont away from the mint. Brown also spoke of getting witnesses to go to Red River, a gentleman

W. M. C. Henry.

July 14<sup>th</sup>  
 from Philadelphia had talked  
 to witness about establishing  
 Mills there; witness had spe-  
 here of this to Brown & Brown  
 told witness they could go to-  
 gether & get work there, Depomont's  
 Work Shop is in the third story  
 Depomont's work confines him  
 a good deal to his work shop.  
 Examination on behalf  
 of Mr. Taylor.

Says that he has never  
 been paid for extra work  
 without having done it.

(71)

7420.

18.

Collected

July 4<sup>th</sup>

Mr. Charles Scheide was sworn  
in as a member on behalf  
of Mr. Tyler.

Has been in the Mint  
of New Orleans, since the com-  
mencement of its operations.  
Was engaged in Philadelphia,  
attended the coinage presses,  
was here when some alterations  
were made to the coinage press  
by Mr. Tyler. The alterations  
were in reducing the ball of  
the coin press & fitting a  
piece of steel to the Hall for  
the purpose of separating the  
piece from the socket. The  
triangles were also altered  
by letting two brass plates  
in the triangle for the pur-  
pose of stiffening them, which  
effect was produced by the al-  
teration, there was also a  
new centre made to the trian-  
gle of the coin press. also of  
the dollar press; these & other  
alterations have greatly im-  
proved the presses. The object  
of the piece of steel was to  
separate the piece from the  
socket to admit the oil was  
over the ball, the ball sits

Mr. Scheide

Mr. Johnson

July 4<sup>th</sup> 2  
 itself by this operation. I do  
 not think the ball has worn  
 materially since this plan  
 was adopted - this plan as to  
 oiling has been in use since  
 June 1898. Has tried the  
 large press which, has not  
 this plan as to oiling it, work-  
 ed very badly - the attractions  
 above referred to have not been  
 abandoned since, to his know-  
 -edge knows the old plans  
 have not been returned to.  
 Believes from what Depo-  
 nent has seen, that, W. Tyler  
 is a good mechanic, & as far  
 as Deponents information  
 extends should say, Tyler is one  
 of the best in the United  
 States. Thinks him very at-  
 tentive to his duties more  
 so than any other man  
 would be. Tyler generally  
 comes to his work about 7  
 A.M. or a little before, break-  
 fasts at 8 and is absent on  
 an average about ~~one~~  
 returns & works till 2 P.M.  
 is absent from 2 P.M. at  
 dinner about an hour re-  
 turning at 3 generally,

Mr. Scherick

July 14<sup>th</sup>

and is generally occupied in his department till dark, sometimes later - the department, room, more might have been done, if more work had been given to Depossent, but Depossent thinks Mr. Tyler has not men enough for his department, to keep Depossent's room supplied with plan charts. Considers that Mr. Tyler treats his men well, when they deserve it. Question. Do you believe, from what you know of Mr. Tyler, Mr. Denny & Mr. Brown, that the public interests would be or would not be promoted by the removal of Mr. Tyler, & the substitution of Mr. Denny or Mr. Brown in his stead.

Ans. <sup>As far as he is</sup> ~~judging that the public interests would~~ <sup>capable</sup> ~~not~~ <sup>be</sup> promoted by Mr. Tyler's removal & the substitution of either Mr. Denny or Mr. Brown.

Examination on behalf of Mr. Tyler.

Being asked of Mr.

July 4<sup>th</sup>

Brown is a witness, whom  
he would believe upon oath.  
Ans. He would not believe  
him on oath where his inter-  
ests are concerned or where  
he could gratify his revenge.

Being as he'd what reasons  
he has for not believing Brown  
on his oath when his interests  
are concerned.

Ans. Deponent does not be-  
lieve some parts of the tes-  
timony which Brown gave  
here before the Commissioner,  
& believes his reputation for  
truth is not very great in  
general - has never known  
or heard of him, Brown, for-  
swearing himself on other  
occasions, but has known him  
to tell falsehoods, & moreover  
knows that he would tell a  
falsehood from a spirit of  
revenge or to gratify a friend.  
Knows this by experience  
& if wished to state instances  
he will do so - knows an  
instance where he agreed  
to get a friend, a young man  
into a situation that was  
already engaged for another

M. Scheride

Mr. Schenck

July 4<sup>th</sup>

and it turned out that the young man did not get the place, knows nothing of his general reputation for the truth, but from what he has heard from some of the men, these men were Jackson & Gallagher. has heard all the men, working in the mint speaks about his vicinity, has never heard these men say he would injure himself & Depew himself did not think so precious to this association - Was on good terms with Brown previous to his discharge - has seldom met with him since Says he knows of no alteration having been made to the milling machine, knows of an alteration having been made to the draw bench Considers the alteration as having no good with relation to preventing noise, but considered it, other wise ~~it~~ was necessary. The draw-bench work will now, as far as Depew knows.

July 14<sup>th</sup>Examination on behalf  
of Mr. Bradford.

Thinks all the work  
done ~~was~~ necessarily done,  
but is of opinion that some  
of the work might have  
been deferred & done by de-  
grees after the mint had  
got into operation all the  
~~ferrous~~<sup>turning</sup> had to be built,  
force pumps set, all the work  
benches made, a great many tools  
also, a forge built, and a va-  
riety of things done that De-  
posant does not recollect -  
Supposes that these things  
were ~~finished~~<sup>in</sup> about the  
latter part of May 1838.

Quest. Could not the adjust-  
ment of the machinery & the  
necessary changes thereof  
have been done during the  
time the matter spoken of  
in your last answer were  
under completion.

Ans. It could have been done  
if there had been some more  
machinists, but the machinists  
were kept all the time busy.  
That sometimes had a piece  
of work in the ceiling room

Mr. Deane

Mr. Schrieve

July 11<sup>th</sup>  
 (Defendant) when the press would  
 get out of order, & a supply  
 of planchets was thus accu-  
 -mulated - this has not often  
 occurred, considering the appli-  
 cation of the machinery. It  
 has occurred frequently in  
 a month - It has sometimes  
 been necessary to take out  
 the dies from their being  
 worn - a die lasts about  
 10 days or two weeks when  
 there is not a press of work  
 a good die will generally  
 strike about two hundred  
 thousand pieces, means the  
 demi or half demi dies.  
 Has never made more than  
 three days extra time, in a  
 month, to the rest of his  
 collection - has never been  
 allowed, nor received extra  
 pay for extra work where  
 extra work was not done.

Examination on behalf  
 of Mr. Tyler.

The dies now in the dieing  
 press, have struck more than  
 two hundred thousand pieces;  
 they are now in tolerable  
 condition.

(12)

28.2/

18?

Collected

July 11<sup>th</sup> 1839  
 Mr. Charles C. Lyon was  
 sworn

Has been in the mint  
 since February 1838 & is  
 employed at cleaning, mil-  
 ling & whitening planchets.  
 Thinks as far as Deponment's  
 observation has extended, the  
 work in the Coiners Depart-  
 ment has been diligently con-  
 ducted. The deponment's branch  
 the machinery has been well  
 taken care of. as far as he  
 has observed the machinery  
 in the other branches of the  
 Department, it appeared to  
 work well - some parts of  
 the machinery have been  
 out of order from the settling  
 of the building. Deponment has  
 but little acquaintance  
 with the subject of machi-  
 nery, except <sup>insofar</sup> as he has  
 gathered since he has been  
 in the mint. Has formed the  
 impression, from observation,  
 of Mr. Tyler's conduct, that  
 he has been anxious to  
~~expedite~~ <sup>expedite</sup> his work, as far  
 as circumstances would

Mr. Lyon

July 4<sup>th</sup>

admit, has always thought from his conduct and attention to business that he was zealous, has frequently found him employed after the regular business hours of the mint.

Before Mr. Brown's discharge, has heard Mr. Brown express approbation of Mr. Tyler's competency to fill his station, has heard Brown approve of the alteration of the coinage process & Denney also.

Questioned by the Commissioner.

Ques. Do you think that the public interests would be promoted by the removal of Mr. Tyler & the substitution of Mr. Denney or Mr. Brown in his stead?

Ans. That he does not think so

Mr. Lyon

July 4<sup>th</sup> 3  
 Mr. John Moady  
 was sworn.

Has been in the  
 Mint since the 19<sup>th</sup> of  
 Decem<sup>r</sup> 1877. Is employ<sup>d</sup>  
 in assaying - Considers  
 Mr. Tyler a very attentive  
 man to his business - the  
 men in Department branch  
 of the Coining Department  
 are kept diligently at work  
 Considers Mr. Tyler's conduct  
 towards his men to be good.  
 Has heard Mr. Brown say  
 the Steam engine was not  
 a good one & wished he could  
 get Mr. Tyler to make a  
 new one. Depo<sup>t</sup>ment inquired  
 if Tyler could make one,  
 Brown said that he, Tyler,  
 could make a complete one.  
 thinks the above remarks  
 of Brown were after the  
 Engine was adj<sup>st</sup>ed - and  
 not recollect the time  
 exactly, but thinks <sup>about</sup> shortly  
 before they commenced coin-  
 ing.

Mr. Moady

July 14<sup>th</sup> 4  
 Mr. Owen O. Bird was  
 sworn.

Has been in the Mint  
 since December 1837. last year  
 was in the blacksmiths shop.  
 is now in the rolling room  
~~where~~ he is foreman. The  
 work in his branch is dis-  
 ignently carried on. Considers  
 Mr. Tyler a very attentive man  
 to his business. His conduct  
 towards his men is very  
 good - has over him for a good  
 many men. I never for a better  
 than Mr. Tyler.

In the name of Mr.  
 Tyler.

Quest. Is Mr. Brown a man  
 whom you could believe on  
 his oath?

Ans. I do not think he should  
 not, in matters which his (Brown's)  
 interest was concerned.

Quest. Did you ever hear  
 Mr. Brown express any opinion  
 as to Mr. Tyler's mechanical  
 abilities.

Ans. I have, soon after we  
 first came and I heard Mr.  
 Brown say that Mr. Tyler  
 was as good a mechanic as he

Mr. Bird.

Mr. Bird

July 4<sup>th</sup> 5  
 ever known. Deponent consid-  
 ers himself as having some  
 acquaintance with the sub-  
 ject of machinery. Considers  
 Brown a poor mechanic  
 as to the practical part  
 Has seen Brown undertake  
 to do turning in iron. Thinks  
 he could do as good a job him-  
 self, though not professing  
 to be a machinist; it was  
 not well done. Brown  
 did not appear to witness  
 familiar with the use of  
 tools - Deponent has been  
 kept very steadily employed  
 since he came here.

Has seen chips & sand  
 in the stuffing box of the  
 Engine - it appeared to have  
 been put there with the de-  
 sign of injuring the Engine.  
 Witness showed to Mr. Moody  
 Has endeavored to find out  
 who did this, but unsucce-  
 ssfully. It might possibly some-  
 times have been accidental  
 but some of them cases he  
 is sure were the result of  
 design. He supposes these  
 things were done by some

July 14<sup>th</sup>

personally hostile to him  
and wished to deprive De-  
poment of his employment.

Examination on behalf  
of Mr. Bradford.

Being asked what are  
his reasons for not believing  
Brown on his oath, where  
Brown might be interested?  
Ans. He came to Depoment  
one day, thinks in June  
1899. Told Depoment he  
had charge of a railroad  
& wished to engage Depoment  
to run an engine there.

Depoment gave him no in-  
couragement about this.  
I soon afterwards found Brown  
was to go away from the  
Mint & witnesses found after-  
wards he had no such ~~place~~  
engagement<sup>ment</sup> - and did this to get  
Depoment away from the  
Mint.

Being asked how does  
witness know that Brown  
had no such employment.

Ans. If Brown had <sup>had</sup> such an  
employment Brown would have  
gone to it where he, Brown, left  
the Mint.

W. Bird

July 14<sup>th</sup>

On behalf of Mr. Tyler  
says, that there were  
some rolls of the rolling  
room that required grinding  
to make them true & both  
of size - this was done. Upon  
they were ground, they were  
not fit for uses if rolls are  
not true the shape cannot  
be made correct by - The rolls  
were untrue before grinding.

On behalf of Mr.  
Bradford

Their untruth might  
consist in being larger at one  
end than another, or larger  
in the middle than at the  
end or one longer than the  
other, it is not necessary that  
one should be larger than the  
other. The two rolls were put  
together to ascertain if they  
were true before grinding, &  
they were ~~sewed~~ <sup>locked</sup> together, when  
by looking through them, it  
was found they touched at  
some places & not at others.  
Deposant did this himself.  
Some of the rolls disagreed  
so much as to require a good  
deal of grinding having small  
holes in them.

W. W. W.

July 1<sup>st</sup> 1839.  
 Mr. George Cooper was  
 sworn.

Says that one morning  
 in last April 1839. Depout  
 came to the mint about  
 6 o'clock in the morning  
 the two door keepers were  
 at the porch of the main  
 door - One of them said why  
 this window has been left  
 open - The door keeper then  
 hoisted the sash from the  
 outside of the building &  
 pushed open the inside  
 shutters with his hand - The  
 window was one of the win-  
 dows of the Treasurer's office  
 the Treasurer's door was still  
 locked, as the door keeper said  
 they, the door keepers did not  
 go into the Treasurer's room  
 then.

Mr. Laffin examined  
 with reference to the paper  
 headed by the words "Silver  
 Bullion" deposited by Lizar-  
 di & Co. "procured" this morn-  
 ing by Mr. Maywell to take  
 the bullion book to his  
 room. That one day before  
 Mr. Bradford copying certain

Mr. Cooper  
 Mr. Laffin

Had taken out by Mr. Maywell & says  
 that he had seen the paper in the  
 Maywell

July 1<sup>st</sup> 1839.  
 Mr. George Cooper was  
 sworn.

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 in last April 1839. Depout  
 came to the mint about  
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 outside of the building &  
 pushed open the inside  
 shutters with his hand - The  
 window was one of the win-  
 dows of the Treasurer's office  
 the Treasurer's door was still  
 locked, as the door keeper said  
 they, the door keepers did not  
 go into the Treasurer's room  
 then.

Mr. Leflore examined  
 with reference to the paper  
 headed by the words "Silver  
 Bullion" deposited by Lizar-  
 di & Co. "procured" this morn-  
 ing by Mr. Maywell to take  
 the bullion book to his  
 room. That one day before  
 Mr. Bradford copying certain

Mr. Cooper  
 Mr. Leflore

Had question put by Mr. Bradford & says  
 that he had been the foreman of the  
 Maywell

Mr. Squire

July 4<sup>th</sup>  
entries from the Weggib-book  
Mr. Bradford had partly  
written it down to the W<sup>g</sup>  
as stated by Mr. Bradford.  
Deponent told Mr. Bradford  
he would copy the balance,  
which Deponent did &  
returned the paper to Mr.  
Bradford. Deponent does  
not know what these fi-  
gures mean.

#10 - 1925.98

" 612.82

inserted in the middle col-  
umn in deponents hand-  
writing. Deponent requested  
Mr. Bradford not to let  
the Book be taken away  
any more by Marshall,  
that Marshall could al-  
ways see the Books at the  
Treasurers Office when he  
wished to consult them.  
Deponent says perhaps the  
Cause of the insertion of  
the said figures in the mid-  
dle column might have  
been in reference to the cir-  
cumstance that there were  
12 W<sup>g</sup> before melting & 11  
after melting but the transaction

July 4<sup>th</sup>

was a long series, that he  
cannot explain it further

Mr. Mayfield calls for a  
copy of Assayer's report No. 35  
Mr. de Lizardi & Co.

Question on behalf of Mr.  
Mayfield to Mr. Tyler.

Did Mr. Dinty say  
that the Casas deposit had  
been weighed before & after  
smelting & that the weights  
remained in the scale  
from the time it was  
first weighed until it came  
back after smelting &  
that it weighed the same?

Ans. I have heard Mr. Dinty  
say that the occasion  
was one evening about the  
commencement of this in-  
vestigation at an infor-  
mal discussion when the  
meeting was about adjourn-  
ing - Mr. Dinty also stated  
that this was the only way  
soon he had for recollecting  
that the Casas Deposit  
had been smelted.

Mr. Tyler

July 4<sup>th</sup>

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mal discussion when the  
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ing - Mr. Dinty also stated  
that this was the only way  
soon he had for recollecting  
that the Casas Deposits  
had been smelted.

Mr. Tyler

July 4<sup>th</sup>  
 Question on behalf  
 of Mr. Bradford.

Q. Did you ever mention  
 to Mr. Dismick that the  
 conduct of Mr. Maywell to-  
 wards Dismick in relation  
 to the Casas deposit was  
 highly improper, that you  
 had reasons of your own  
 for thinking so & that you  
 had not been in Mr. May-  
 well's house for 3 months.

Ans. I do not think I did.

Depo<sup>nt</sup> adds that he does  
 not ~~put~~ much to his mem-  
 ory about matters which I  
 do not pay particular atten-  
 tion to at the time. Depo<sup>nt</sup>  
 mentions in relation to a part  
 of this enquiry says, he has  
 an indistinct recollection  
 of having spoken of the in-  
 terruption of his personal  
 intercourse with Mr. May-  
 well and that perhaps he  
 may have said it was im-  
 proper in Mr. Maywell to  
 charge Dismick with fraud.  
 But depo<sup>nt</sup> does not think  
 he expressed to Dismick his  
 opinion about the events of the

July 4<sup>th</sup>  
Case.

A document is filed by Mr. Mayfield which is a check endorsed by Mr. Partridge to be in his hand writing, so far as the figures in ink are concerned which is requested to be forwarded in original.

The Commissioner has informed the parties that the testimony was now closed & that only one further matter would be called on tomorrow at 1/2 past 10 o'clock precisely for the sole purpose of comparing the Copies of documents which are to be forwarded as part of this investigation.

W. J. Mayfield